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BY JODY REESE

GRANITE VIEWS

No more 'good enough'



Politicians running for office often claim that government should be run more like a business or your household budget. Unfortunately, or really quite fortunately, businesses can't force you to buy their products the way government can. Heck, in the case of government you even pay for services you don't want and you don't approve of — not exactly like business. While business exists to earn a profit for its owners, government exists to create a safe society where people can pursue whatever makes them happy (with some caveats). There really is little truth to the idea that government can be operated like a business. But little doesn't mean none. In some areas government has already found inspiration in business: competition.

States will set up tax advantages for particular kinds of business in an attempt to compete for that business. Tax credits for film-making are a common way states encourage movies to be shot in their state. Local communities will offer property tax breaks and free land to encourage larger employers to settle. This kind of competition tends to be on price. Other communities use skilled workforces, natural resources and schools to attract business.

On an international level, federal governments compete to offer different kind of tax incentives too.

But there is one area that governments tend not to compete on: attracting new residents or even keeping current residents happy.

So, what gives?

While many local communities want new business, they really don't want new people. Residents are expensive. They want schools for their children, parks to go jogging in and safe streets to roam. Worse yet, people vote and might change the way a community is run. In many New Hampshire communities it actually seems like they are competing to see which town can offer the fewest amenities and thus attract the fewest people.

Unfortunately this is a widely held sentiment in most communities in New Hampshire — and most everywhere else. Residents, it seems, are an unfortunate part of running a city or town (or even state). One might say lousy is good enough in local government.

Yet what would happen if most of the residents of Manchester or Nashua decided they had had enough and moved elsewhere? Those towns would go bankrupt — just look at what happened to Detroit.

No, towns need residents, and as people are more able to work from home people can easily relocate to communities that want them. That's right. The next stage in competition is going to be for residents. We're already seeing some of that — communities that attract young educated residents have done the best in the recession. These communities are richer and have fewer problems.

A few days ago I got an excited call from a friend. He had gone in to register his truck just before the end of the year and the clerk told him to wait a few more days to save a few hundred bucks. What great service.

I think local elected officials will find that their staffs want to do a great job and want to move their cities and towns a better place, they just need those elected officials to let them do it.

Lousy is not good enough any more.

12 Time to vote

Jeff Mucciarone and Adam Coughlin have been watching the New Hampshire primary closely, all season long. Now they look back at the ups and downs and ahead at the election to come — finally! — on Jan. 10. Cover illustration by Tony Luongo, www.LuongoArt.com



Also on the cover: In Part 1 of our four-part **Look Good, Feel Great** series, we look at yoga for guys, roller derby and football for girls, and krav maga, the self-defense practice for everyone. It all starts on page 18.

Get a taste of summer at Tilton's **winter farmers market** which starts this Saturday (see the story on page 50). And see a listing of other area winter markets on page 52.

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News and culture weekly serving metro southern New Hampshire. Published every Thursday (1st copy free; 2nd \$1).

January 5 - 11, 2012 : Vol. 12, No. 1
49 Hollis St., Manchester, N.H. 03101
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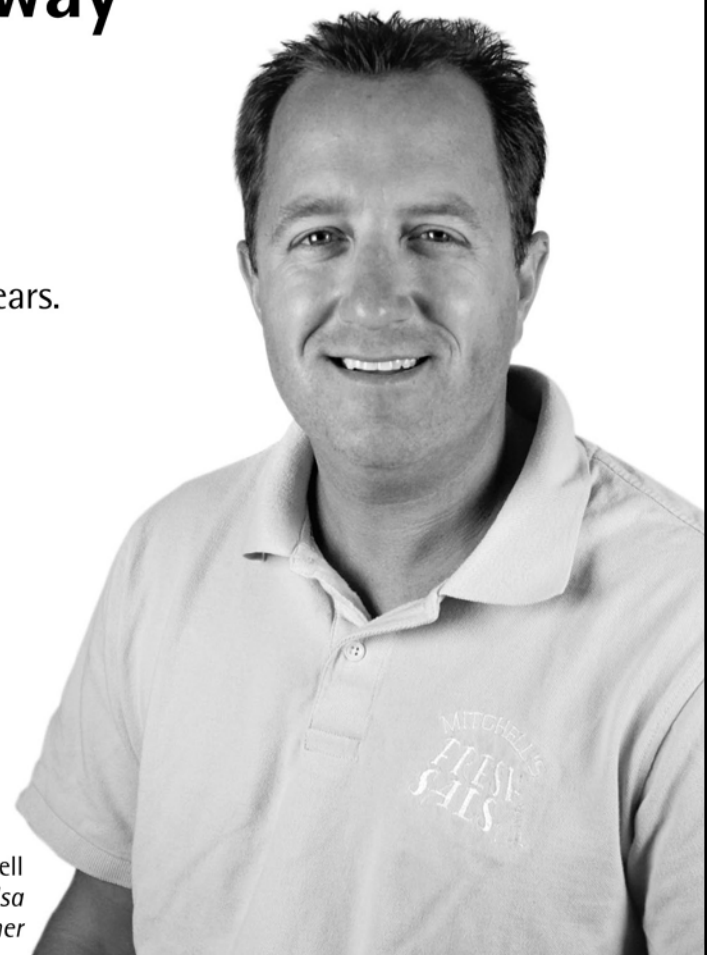


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NEWS & NOTES

News in Brief

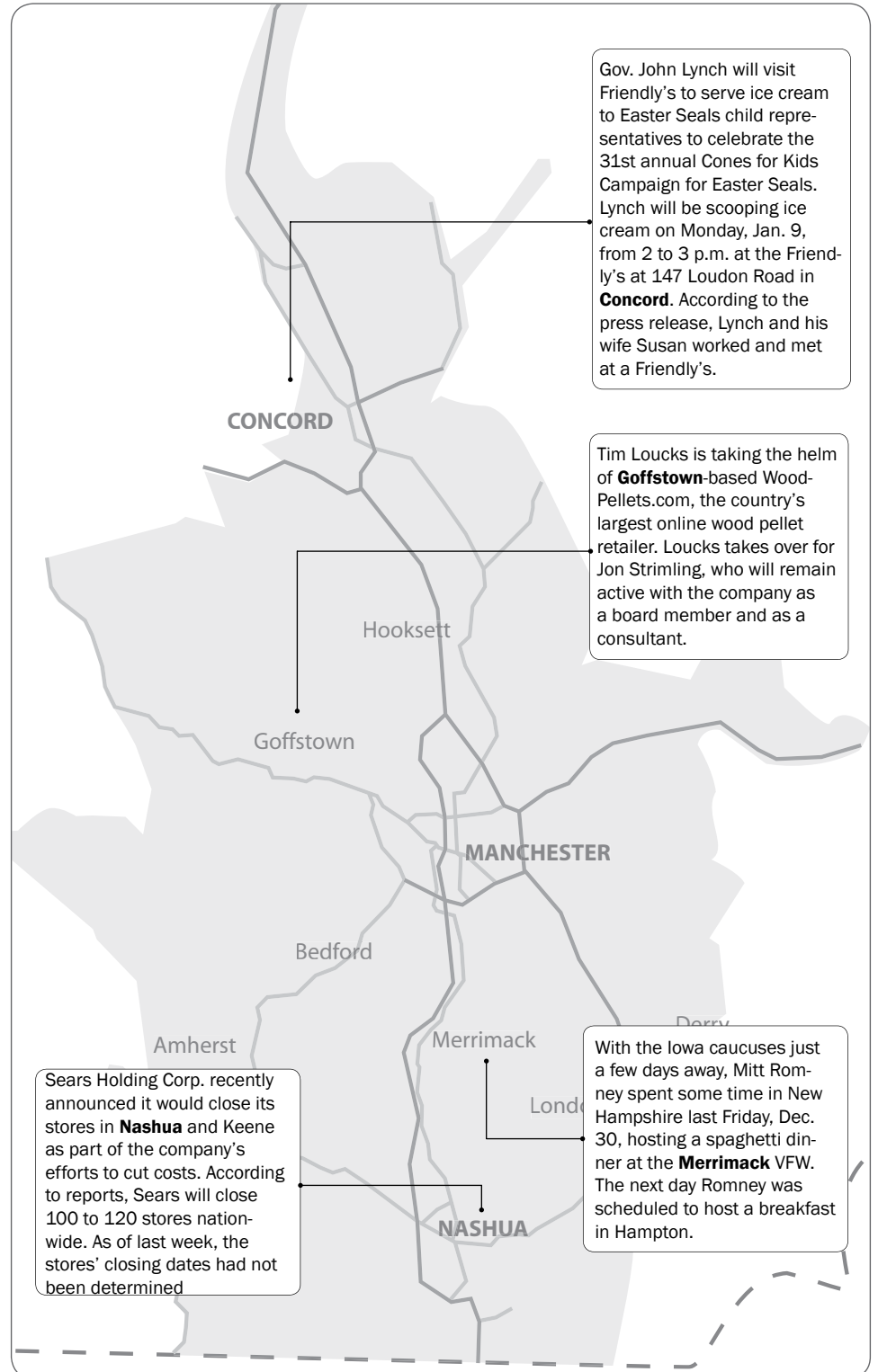
• **Payroll tax cut:** Congress finally reached an agreement this week to extend the payroll tax cut for another two months. “Having voted against the bill that rejected the Senate’s two-month extension compromise, I am pleased the House will now reconsider its position and support this important short term measure,” said U.S. Rep. Charlie Bass in a statement. “As I’ve said during this debate, extending the payroll tax cut, unemployment benefits, and the Medicare physician reimbursement rate for two months is better than not extending it all to prevent a tax increase on hardworking New Hampshire families on January 1. We now need to work on a longer-term extension of these important benefits.” Bass was one of seven Republicans earlier this week to vote against rejecting the Senate’s original two-month extension proposal. The proposal garnered the support of 39 Republican senators and would have guaranteed the prevention of a tax increase on Jan. 1.

• **Partnership for childcare:** Elliot Health System and Easter Seals New Hampshire are teaming up. The two entities are working together to keep the state’s largest childcare center open. The companies signed an agreement to do that last week. “Working with Easter Seals NH to maintain the same level of care for children at the VNA Child and Family Resource Center has been remarkable,” said Doug Dean, president and CEO of Elliot Health System, in a statement. “Both organizations recognize that while Elliot is not in the business of childcare, we have been caring for children at the Center on the west side of Manchester for decades.” Easter Seals has operated inclusive infant and toddler child development programs since 1985. The organization’s Madeline A. Galeucia Child Development Center on Auburn Street in Manchester is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and serves children of all abilities from 6 weeks to 6 years old. In the wake of state Medicaid cuts and the increased pressure from delivering more uncompensated care than ever to the community, Elliot was forced to look at programs that might not be viable in the future, according to an Elliot press release; Elliot and Easter Seals began discussing how to continue meeting the needs of children, families and the staff of the VNA Child Care and Family Resource Center. “Easter Seals is in the business of providing childcare services, so shifting the ownership to our team, knowing that we recognize the value and importance of this program, was critical to everyone involved,” said Larry Gammon, Easter Seals NH president & CEO. Gammon said the organization is pleased to be able to expand its program to more families throughout the Queen City. In addition to keeping the Child Development Center running, the Family Resource Center housed at the facility will continue to offer parent education, family support groups, GED classes and donation distribution, the release said. The program will be renamed the Easter Seals NH Child Development and Family Resource Center. Call 623-8863. Visit www.easterseal-snh.org.

• **Primary film:** The primary season is in full swing with Iowa’s caucuses earlier this week and the New Hampshire primary slated for Tuesday, Jan. 10, and with good timing, the politically charged documentary *Patriocracy* will get a special screening in New Hampshire on Sunday, Jan. 8. The film, which is the work of film director and producer Brian Malone and which premiered last year at the Starz Denver Film Festival, will air at 4 p.m. at the New Hampshire Institute of Technology’s Sweeney Auditorium, 31 College Drive in Concord. The film “drills down to the roots of political polarization and offers sound solutions to move beyond it,” according to a film press release. There will also be a special screening in South Carolina. The film features interviews with CBS Washington correspondent Bob Schieffer, former U.S. senator Alan Simpson, Newsweek political reporter Eleanor Clift and political commentator Pat Buchanan. The presentation in New Hampshire will include a panel discussion with National League of Women Voters President Elisabeth MacNamara, Malone and former congressman Paul Hodes. Visit www.patriocracymovie.com. In the film, Malone makes the argument that the last few years have been some of the most politically divided years in the country’s history.

• **Formula recall:** The state Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health Services is advising parents of the voluntary recall of a powdered infant formula following the death of an infant in Missouri. The infant died from a bacterial infection. The source of the bacteria has not been determined yet, but as a precaution, powdered infant formula retailers, including Walmart, Supervalu and Walgreens, have pulled Enfamil Newborn formula with the lot number ZP1K7G until tests are complete, according to a state press release. “We want to exercise the utmost caution while we await the results of the testing and further investigation,” said DHHS Public Health Director Dr. José Montero, in a statement. “At this time we are advising parents not to use the product with the lot number ZP1K7G until additional information is available.” The bacteria in question, *Cronobacter sakazakii*, rarely causes illnesses in people, but it can cause infections in infants, including meningitis, that can be fatal, the release said. DHHS continues to recommend careful adherence to the infection prevention measures while preparing formula. These include washing hands with soap and water before preparation, cleaning all feeding equipment in hot, soapy water and preparing formula for just one feeding at a time. Anyone who has received this formula through New Hampshire’s Women, Infants and Children program can contact a local WIC office or the state WIC office for assistance.

• **New PAC:** There is a new PAC in town. The New Hampshire Republicans for Freedom and Equality Political Action Committee will dedicate resources to supporting Republicans who stand up for the freedom and liberty of all New Hampshire citizens and against efforts to reverse or dilute marriage equality, according to an organization press release. Sean Owen, CEO of wēdu and Printer’s Square in Manchester, will serve as chairman



of the new PAC. The PAC will work with committed Granite Staters to build the group and raise money to defend the Republican legislators who do not want to take away freedoms from gay and lesbian residents, the release said. The group is raising an initial \$100,000 to enable it to support individual candidates, as well as to make independent expenditures in priority races. “We’re here to protect New Hampshire Republicans who understand that freedom and liberty means freedom and liberty for all our citizens, not just some,” Owen said in a statement. “We will stand by those legislators who defend individual rights and freedom in this cycle and beyond if necessary.” Visit www.nhrfe.com.

• **Job training grants:** Gov. John Lynch announced last week that companies in Littleton and Lebanon will receive Job Training Fund Grants totaling almost \$30,000. The money will be used to train more than 140 New Hampshire workers, according to a state press release. The program continues to be successful, something Democrats highlighted

in an event earlier last month. Lynch reinstated the Job Training Fund four years ago, and since then nearly 12,000 workers in the state have received training and enhanced skills through the program. “Investing in our workers is a key part of our state’s successful economic strategy. The Job Training Fund is ensuring that we have a skilled, educated workforce, which is keeping good jobs right here in New Hampshire and helping to lead us to economic recovery,” Lynch said in a statement. Olympus Biotech in Lebanon and Yeaton Associates in Littleton received grants in December. The companies will provide funds to match the grants. Since the Fund was reestablished, companies from across the state have received grants totaling more than \$4 million. Companies receiving grants have contributed more than \$6 million in matching funds, bringing the total amount invested in training new workers to nearly \$11 million. Visit www.nhjobtrainingfund.org.



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HIPPO POLITICS

Meanwhile, in Concord...

NH politics beyond the primary in 2012

By Jeff Mucciarone
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2011 will probably be remembered in New Hampshire, from a political point of view, for the dramatic cutbacks in the state budget. Closing a gap as large as \$900 million requires lots of cuts and the Republican-controlled legislature obliged.

Looking ahead, fiscal concerns are still at the core of what 2012 will bring, but without the need to pass another state budget until 2013, the door is open for more legislative action and political news. Of course, the Republican presidential primary will dominate national headlines for much of the winter and spring, but state political developments will be just as interesting. There are a number of issues, such as gay marriage repeal, that the legislature will probably take up in 2012. And there are plenty of political characters and playmakers who may or may not run for office. Here's a look at some key issues and people we'll be watching.

Repeal gay marriage?

The big question on the legislative front is gay marriage repeal, at least in terms of the attention it would get. Democrats passed a law legalizing gay marriage in 2009, and though it isn't a top priority for all Republicans, it is for some. A bill that calls for repeal awaits a hearing in January.

The bill will be a tough sell, particularly as fiscal concerns still loom. It will be easy for Democrats and some Republicans to argue that social issues are not on the forefront of residents' minds. On the other hand, it might be now or never. Republicans can't expect to have huge majorities like this, well, ever again. If the House and Senate could pass the bill, Democrats would be expecting Gov. John Lynch to veto any repeal effort.

The gubernatorial race

We know Lynch isn't running, likely to the chagrin of Democrats, but the field has started to take shape. We've known for a while that Ovide Lamontagne and Kevin Smith are in the mix for the GOP and that Maggie Hassan is in on the Democratic side. Steve Marchand, the former Portsmouth mayor, is apparently out, as is Stonyfield Yogurt CEO Gary Hirshberg. Former state senator Jackie Cilley could be getting in the mix, reports suggest. Other names are starting to surface on the Democratic side as well.

A few questions to ponder: Will Republican Manchester Mayor Ted Gatsas run for governor? He has admitted he's considering it and he could shake up a primary race that looked to be Lamontagne's to lose a few months ago. That still might be the case, but Gatsas would surely have a big impact. Will any other imposing candidates for governor emerge on the Democratic side? Hassan, a former state senator, had often been talked about as a candidate for governor at some point, but that was before she lost her senate reelection bid in 2010. She's getting a big head start on any other Democratic contenders, but there is still plenty of time. We'll



be watching to see who else, if anyone, emerges.

Congressional races

It's clear U.S. Rep. Charlie Bass will face a very tough reelection

battle with Anne McLane Kuster, who narrowly lost to Bass in 2010. It's probably going to be extremely close again, and it's unlikely anyone else will run on the Democratic side. McLane's campaign was lauded last time around in defeat, though many had picked her to win in the final days of the campaign.

U.S. Rep. Frank Guinta could be facing another fight with former Rep. Carol Shea-Porter, though she isn't alone on the Democratic side, with Joanne Dowdell and Andrew Hosmer running. Guinta beat Shea-Porter handily in 2010 when she was seeking reelection, but Shea-Porter has a formidable grassroots organization.

What helps Kuster is that the 2nd Congressional District is known to be a more liberal district. In the same way, what helps Guinta is that the 1st District is more Republican, and according to a recent University of New Hampshire study, the district might be growing more Republican.

Education funding

It's a battle that's been going on for years and years now. The Senate, the House and Lynch tried to tackle it with proposals last year, with only the House version surviving. That bill awaits a hearing from the Senate in January. Passing a constitutional amendment, which even if it passes the House and Senate would still require a two-thirds vote from the general public, would be extremely difficult.

But it's an area where there perhaps remains some common ground between Republican leaders and the governor. House Majority Leader D.J. Bettencourt said as much last month.

Lynch isn't going to carry as much weight this year as he has in the past, given that he's in full lame duck status. But he was able to pick and choose where to make stands this past year, particularly with the right-to-work bill. The House sustained Lynch's veto of that bill last month. Lynch was also able to effectively squash expanded gambling legislation.

Finding a long-term solution to the education funding question has been something Lynch has long talked about. It'll be interesting to follow what type of compromise bill, if any, emerges from the coming session.

Privatize corrections?

This is another area where there appears to be some common ground between Republicans and Lynch. Lynch has also long talked about privatizing corrections or at least portions of corrections. Republican legislators have also been in favor of some form of privatization.

Corrections is one of the major drivers for the state budget, so officials have been looking for ways to get the prison population under control and to reduce costs. In 2010 lawmakers enacted a controversial prison reform bill that released prisoners a few months early under supervision. The policy was aimed at reducing recidivism, which would subsequently reduce prison costs. There could be room to address the privatization issue this session.

What if revenues increase?

This could be a big question for the year. Republicans, who admittedly made conservative revenue estimates in creating the state budget, have said that if revenues come in

greater than their expectations, they'd use any additional revenue to pad the state's reserve account, the Rainy Day Fund. Democrats could have something to say about that if the money starts rolling in, not that anyone is really expecting the money to roll in.

With major cuts to Health and Human Services and state hospitals, Democrats could and probably would make the case that extra revenue should go to restoring programs the legislature cut this past year. On the numbers front, Republicans can call the shots, but on the messaging front, Democrats would be able to make a compelling case in an election year.

Stay tuned.

Occupy the primary

New Hampshire group gets a national stage

The Occupy movement has gotten plenty of attention nationally, in some cases negative attention for its clashes with city officials and law enforcement. That hasn't been the case in New Hampshire, where the movement is alive and well, though not rooted to a particular location. Matt Lawrence, a Manchester resident, joined the Occupy cause when it took up residence in Manchester. Since then, participants have taken Occupy on the move to a number of cities and towns across the state. Visit www.occupynh.org or send e-mail to OccupyNH@gmail.com.

Q: *How did you get involved?*
I had heard about what was going on with Occupy Wall Street and I had been involved in limited activism prior to this. I'd done some things with Protect New Hampshire Families, a group that works on workers' rights issues. ... When I found out there was an [Occupy] branch in Boston, and perhaps in Manchester, there was a call put out on Facebook to gather in October.... There was a meeting in Arms Park and about 90 people were there. It was very good to see. We scheduled another event in Concord and we all agreed to start an actual encampment. That started on Oct. 15 at Victory Park. At the time I was unemployed and I had extra time. I was seeing the ills of the world and it motivated me to do my part and stand up for what was right.

What's the response been here?

The response has been relatively positive. ... A lot of people were frustrated with the bailouts, working-class people and in some cases working poor. ... They're living and working paycheck to paycheck and then they see the corporations and the government in bed together ... essentially gambling with our debts, and then they don't have to pay the costs. The saying is "too big to fail" — if that was true, then why was the result of it bailouts that the banks got consolidated and got even bigger? ... we talk to local businesses in Manchester, Nashua, Portsmouth, we've gone all over the state. ... One of the biggest questions or critiques is that we're anti-business. That's a perception that the mainstream media loves to push, but it's simply not true.... A place in Manchester, Greg's Place, opened its doors to us and lets us have our general assembly there. A lot of businesses might have had initial hesitance in supporting us ... but often, once we get talking, we find they have a lot in common with what we're talking about. We are all about small businesses. We have no problem with small businesses. The problem, for me, very broadly ... is that business is great, we just expect them to be accountable when



they do fail. In a truly capitalist society, businesses should rise and fall on their own merits.

Where are you located now?

What happened was we initially planned on being at Veterans Park on Elm Street in Manchester but shortly before the occupation started we learned that police were planning a benefit there for fallen officers. We came together as a group and decided, "We're not trying to step on anybody's toes." We worked with the city. ... It was actually very good. We met with police and Parks and Recreation and we set up our camp in Victory Park in Manchester and then after the police benefit we moved back to Veterans Park. It was two days later that they evicted us. Since then, we've taken more of a roving approach. During the last eight weeks, we've been visiting cities and towns all around the state. It started with Manchester and then Concord, we went to Exeter, we went to Plymouth, Nashua, also Conway....

[Interacting with city officials and law enforcement,] how has that relationship gone?

Actually it's gone very smoothly. ... We had meetings with Parks and Recreation yesterday for Occupy the New Hampshire Primary, and they were actually very surprised. They had a captain ... come down and tell us, "We're not here to infringe on your rights. Occupy has been way more helpful than we thought they'd be." The media has portrayed us in a negative fashion. ... We're doing as much as we can to work with the laws. Obviously, there's an element of people who are more radical and they don't agree with working with the system.... But as a whole, we've gotten a positive reception from the city. Just about every public office we've worked with has thanked us for being as

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open as we were. ... There was a meeting with the Goffstown Police, and the chief said he was actually scared at first because he thought he was going to get heckled and told what was going to go on, to find out actually, we're working with them, and not against them. ...

What is Occupy the New Hampshire Primary all about?

The Occupy the Primary event is essentially a four-day festival held at Veterans Park in Manchester, between [Friday, Jan. 6, and Tuesday, Jan. 10.] We're inviting people from other Occupy movements. There are 25 people coming from Wall Street Occupy. Boston confirmed it's coming up in a big way. Look at our Facebook page and 500-plus people have said they are attending. ... While we're there, there is everything from theater action, to a funeral for the American dream... teachings, Veterans for Peace, [musical performances, workshops and film showings].... So far it's gotten a very positive reception from the city.... We had a meeting with Parks and Recreation. We want to recycle our trash, keep the parks clean. I think they were surprised. I think they half expected a bunch of dirty hippies. ... To see a bunch of supposedly radical organizations come down and work with city officials...it's respectful. ... It's not so much about the New Hampshire primary as it is about getting people from around the country and addressing our politicians. ... We want the 99 percent represented. ...

Do you see the movement leaning toward a particular political party, or does it have little to do with political parties?

At first, I was inclined to believe it was

more Democrats. But as we got involved, about half our numbers were Libertarians, some were straight Republicans, some socialists. I consider myself relatively progressive. I'm an independent voter. It's a pretty even mix. It's definitely surprising. ... Republicans, sometimes you can tell by their attitudes, they expect to have an argument, but we find a lot of the concerns of Republicans are small business concerns. We are not anti-business. ... We have a lot of support from small businesses. A lot of donations. ... It's surprising to see the diversity of opinions in the political spectrum.

It's obviously getting colder. Is that posing a problem at all?

Typically, during the last month or so, we haven't been doing too many outside actions. We're trying to meet inside. ... Occupy the Primary will be outside and we are encouraging people to dress in multiple layers. They're coming from all over the country, so a lot of them are not familiar with how cold a New England winter can be. [He said some churches have opened their doors to Occupy participants.]

What are you taking away from having taken part?

It's reinvigorating. ... It doesn't matter which side of the aisle you're on. We're here to say we're the majority in this country. And if [politicians are] not voting with the majority, something is seriously wrong. ... It started out as a financial sort of movement, but it speaks to a larger issue. ... it speaks to a truth that's often ignored: there are more important things than money.

—Jeff Mucciarone



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QUALITY OF LIFE
INDEX

Only in New Hampshire

A Portsmouth man was charged with a misdemeanor last week. His crime: failing to properly confine his wolf hybrid named Lucky. Turns out there is a specific law in New Hampshire that deals with ownership of a wolf hybrid that requires the owner to properly confine it, according to seacoastonline.com. The man is scheduled to appear in court in February.

QOL score: -1

Comments: *No report on whether there was a full moon or not.*

Take that, Iowa

Jon Huntsman is banking his campaign on New Hampshire, so it should be no surprise he feels strongly about the state. In an interview with CBS's *The Early Show* Huntsman said, "They pick corn in Iowa. They pick presidents in New Hampshire." Oh, snap!

QOL score: +1

Comments: *Take that, Iowa; go build a baseball field and see if Shoeloeess Joe Jackson comes and plays!*

Why layoffs are sometimes good news

It's not particularly good news for the people who work there, but the fact that the New Hampshire Department of Employment Security is laying off 53 full-timers and 19 part-timers is probably good news for everybody else. According to a Union Leader article last week, the cuts were made to account for an increase in hiring since last year. Tara Reardon, Employment Security commissioner, said the Department has one-third of the claims it had 18 months ago.

QOL score: +1 (-1 for the people being laid off, +2 for the rest of the economy)

Comment: *There are currently 11,000 unemployment claims in the state, the article said.*

Some trails are opening

The state Division of Parks and Recreation's Bureau of Trails had to postpone the opening of snowmobile trails in the state because of a lack of snow last month. But with colder temperatures and some snowfall up north, snowmobile enthusiasts can find some trails open for the new year. The Bureau announced last week 30 miles of trails in the East Inlet area north of Pittsburg would be open Saturday, Dec. 31, for riding. The trails will be un-groomed. So for snowmobile enthusiasts who want to do some driving before some riding, this is probably good news.

QOL score: 0 (+1 for riders, and -1 for everybody else)

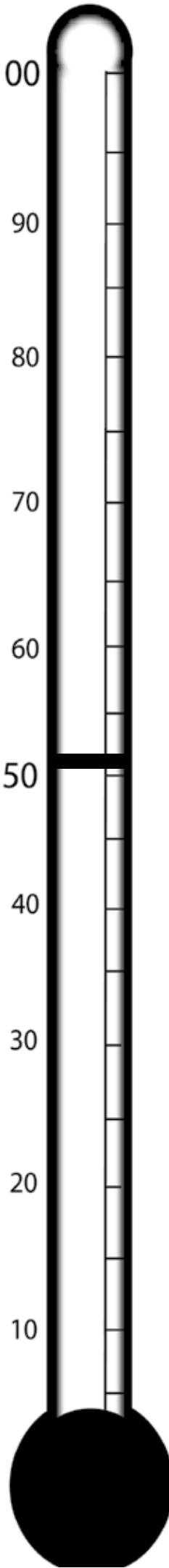
Comment: *"Pittsburg has gotten enough snow for some early season riding conditions," said Chris Gamache, Bureau of Trails Chief. "Typically our major storms occur after in January so we are expecting another great riding season in New Hampshire."*

QOL score: 50

Net change: +1

QOL this week: 51

At the beginning of each year, the QOL score starts fresh at 50. What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippopress.com.



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What's in the crystal ball for 2012



Happy New Year, everyone. And with the new year having just arrived, let's take a look into the crystal ball to see what lies ahead in the world of sports for 2012.

January: Alabama beats LSU 3-2 in the bogus BCS title game when the kicker Bama uses for middle-range field goals whose name no one can remember hits a 60-yarder after the long-range one they normally use was 0-7 on tries of over 60 to that point.

After being a zillion games under .500 after Nov. 1 with the Giants, the brass finally drop the hammer on **Tom Coughlin** to go in a new direction.

(Baseball) Mitt Romney rolls to victory on the Republican side of the New Hampshire primary and in his victory speech he opens with, "Hey, New Hampshire Primaries would make a heck of a name for a baseball team" and ends with, "It's on to South Carolina where I'll probably be for everything I was against in New Hampshire."

Behind the heroics of **Tim Tebow** Denver scores three TDs and three 2-point conversions on the Patriots defense in the last 1:47 but the Pats hold on to win the AFC title game 25-24 when **Steve Gostkowski** kicks a 46-yarder off 2 feet of snow and through the swirling winds of a driving blizzard.

Figuring he couldn't be worse after Nov. 1 than the last guy, the Giants answer the call from their fans to bring back – for a second run as HC of the NYG's.

February: The Super Bowl turns out to be a game for the ages as **Aaron Rodgers** blitzes the Pats' secondary for 11 TD passes but still loses because Brady also throws 11 TD passes and **Steve Gostkowski** bangs home a 49-yarder as time expires to win 80-77.

Jermaine O'Neal has his first back-to-back games with at least one field goal, although that he went 2 for 25 in those game eludes the green teamers on the Comcast Sports Net pre-game show.

To commemorate Jet Blue's Boston-to-Miami winter promotion **Kevin Youkilis** and prospects are sent to Miami and **Hanley Ramirez** flies back the other way, and the C's send **Ray Allen** to enjoy the Miami heat in return for the Heat's next six first-round picks and six slugs from its bench to balance off the salary cap.

March: 34 seconds into his opening spring training press conference reporters demand to know what **Bobby Valentine** is going to do about the chicken and beer stories from 2011. He says that's so last year and stories surface he's not media-friendly.

Kevin Garnett is traded to Oklahoma City and **Jermaine O'Neal** to Portland at the trading deadline as **Danny Ainge** shoots for the lottery while acquiring more trading assets.

Barack Obama throws out the first pitch for the Sox exhibition final at Nationals Park. To which **Bobby V** says, "We could use a lefty like that," which **Bernie Goldberg** tells The Fox News Channel is the latest example of eastern elite media bias.

April: An extra detail of armed guards is hired to protect **Coach B** after rumors circulate he will again take offensive players with the seven second-round picks he has accumulated.

The Colts use the first overall pick to select **Andrew Luck** to be their QB of the future, which comes sooner than they think when **Peyton Manning** says this kid is ready now and asks for his release.

After a pass rusher described to be the next **Lawrence Taylor** only with an attitude slides and is taken with the pick after Coach B makes the last of his seven picks in the second round, this reporter puts his foot through the flat screen.

May: Manning signs as a free agent with the J-E-T-S, **Mark Sanchez** buys new luggage and **Rex** tweets, "This time I really mean it, we're winning the Super Bowl."

The New York Post recycles the back page headline it used after the Giants drubbed the Jets in December, which reads, "Shut Up Fat Boy!"

June: After the Yanks get off horrendously, **Joe Girardi** is fired amid rumors **Billy Martin** or **Bruce Boudreau** will replace him, but out of door number 3 comes **Terry Francona** instead.

Tito immediately says 90 is the new 100 in the pitch-count world, and pledges to give anyone who's "sore" an extra day off — before leaving for the getting-to-know-each-other chicken-and-beer night he throws for his new players.

The U.S. Geological Survey calms fears at the Stadium by confirming the rumbling ground in Monument Park wasn't an earthquake, it was **George Steinbrenner** rolling over in his grave after hearing Tito's inaugural speech.

July: Tito's back at Fenway for the first time with the Empire, which is perfect timing as it

comes when they are honoring **Grady Little**, **Bill Buckner** and **Mike Torrez** on Scape Goat night.

Jonathan Papelbon sets a record for blown saves in a season on July 4 and in a patriotic gesture says, "I regret I have but one life to give for my new city," after irate Phillies fans rein down a **(Nathan) Hale** of boos on him the likes of which no one in the city of, ahem, brotherly love has seen there since Santa got it on Christmas Day 1975.

The first annual **JD Drew** Award, given to the most overpaid underachiever of the year, is handed at Fenway to the U.S. Congress after a runaway vote over **(fat) Albert Haynesworth**.

August: A heat wave blasts America and nothing happens besides nine season-ending injuries in Patriots camp that they refuse to acknowledge.

September: The San Francisco Chronicle reports **Barry Bonds'** head size is down to 9¾.

The Pats open the season with only 10 guys on defense. The media surmises it's because those nine season-ending injuries were all on defense and since **Coach B** went all offense in the draft there was no one to take their place.

October: Legions in The Nation are asking **Theo Who?** after the Sox sweep the Cubs in the all-old-stadium series.

Josh Beckett now able to eat Popeye's fried chicken, which he vowed he wouldn't touch until the Sox won another series.

November: The Celtics open the season with **Rajon Rondo** in an anonymous starting lineup featuring those four friends **Moses Malone** wanted to pick up off the streets to play the Cs in the '81 finals.

The Post reveals the "Bring Ray Back" movement was actually a covert plot hatched by **Rex Ryan** to fool the 0-8 Giants into hiring **Handley** by disguising Jets fans as Giants fans to take the town back from them. In the story a chuckling Rex predicts the 4-8 Jets will win the Super Bowl.

December: With the Broncos 15-0 going into the season's final week, Tebowmania sweeps the country to such a pitch that Christmas arrives early for **Bill Maher** as his prayers to attend the historic games are answered by **Tebow**, who leaves tickets at will call.

Dave Long can be e-mailed at dlong@hippo-press.com. He hosts Saturday Morning Sports with Dave Long from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays on WGAM – The Game 1250-AM in Manchester and 900-AM in Nashua.

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PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

Sports Glossary

Bill Maher: Callous, mean-spirited stand-up comedian with the often funny but smarmy take-no-prisoners I-think-I'm-smarter-than-you approach to anyone and anything he does not agree with. That included a dimwitted comment about the 9-11 hijackers not being cowardly that eventually cost him his *Politically Incorrect* gig with ABC. Moved to HBO after that, which, since you can swear on air, he probably likes better. Recent blue-language Twitter rant on Tim Tebow's bad day in Buffalo mocked Tebow's convictions even though the real target was the religious right. An example of why I don't like him even though I agree with him a lot of the time.

Ray Handley: Train wreck of a coach somehow chosen by then GM George Young to succeed Bill Parcells as Giants coach despite the fact that Bill Belichick and Tom Coughlin were on the staff of Tuna's final Giants club. His tenure in NY made the Pete Carroll era that followed the Big Man in New England look like Lombardi with the Packers. Lasted just 2 years as head man for the football Giants as they went from a 13-3 Super Bowl winner to 8-8 the next year and 6-10 after that. And then he was gone from the NFL, never to be heard from again.

Fat Albert: Likeable '70s cartoon character voiced by Bill Cosby. Brought to mind the unlikeable former Patriot and Redskin Albert Haynesworth because he was out of shape and didn't seem to care because he didn't have to after getting (or is it stealing) the big dough in free agency. It showed too in his robust 2011 that saw him get 19 tackles with two teams over 15 games so far.

Nathan Hale: "I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country" Revolutionary War hero who was hanged by the British for spying behind enemy lines. Didn't make it much past the signing of the Declaration of Independence as he got it on Sept. 22, 1776, which is two months and 18 days after it was signed. There is some controversy to whether he actually uttered those words, with the scuttlebutt being that some Yale alums made it up to make the alma mater look good when the great war was studied as years go by. But many believe he stepped to the plate with dignity that last day and told the British where to go right before his collar got too tight.

Merrimack the big high school holiday winner

The Big Story: It was a doubleheader of sorts for Merrimack High as it won the boys side of the Queen City Invitational Basketball Tournament in a 57-54 squeaker over West, and also the Bauer Christmas Hockey Classic with a 2-1 win over Memorial. On the girls side Bay View Academy of Providence, R.I., took QCIBT 53-49 over plucky Memorial. All ended with heroics as **Dimitri Floras** buried a three with 7 seconds and **Jeff Giannelli** took a charge seconds later to stave off West, while in hockey it was a goal from **Chris Fortin** in the fourth round of OT that gave the Tomahawks the win and **Brett (live and) Glendye** made the stops on the four shots that came his way in OT.

Sports 101: The career record of 43 rushing TDs by a quarterback is held by whom?

Do the Math: These QCIB T tidbits come from stat maven and city hoops historian **Tommy Ameen**. By quarter West scored 12-13-14-15 points in a 57-54 loss to Merrimack in the championship game. West made 23 threes in its three games and defeated city rivals Trinity and Central by identical 66-59 scores.

Merrimack senior **Tyler Gendron** became the 25th member of the QCIBT Century Club by scoring 14-13-12 points to finish his career with 112 overall. It was Merrimack's ninth trip to the finals in the last 12 years and the fourth title for the Tomahawks. Dover carries 13 juniors on its 14-player roster. The only non-junior is senior transfer **Leonard Williams**.

Upset of the Week: Perhaps it won't seem as

such as the season unfolds, but West's knocking off Trinity 66-59 in the opening round of the Queen City Invitational Basketball Tournament was a stunner to many. **Jocarl (Adjusment) Bureau** was huge for West by disrupting the Trinity offense all through the fourth quarter. He had a game-high 22 followed by **Aaron Martin's** 21 for the Blue Knights, while (**zsa, zsa**) **Mabor Gabriel** had 16 points and 11 boards for the Pioneers.

Nick of Tyme Award: To **Zach Boivin** for giving Trinity a 2-1 win over Hanover at the Bauer Christmas Hockey Classic by scoring with 17 seconds left to make them winners over the Marauders.

On This Date: Jan. 5: 1920 The Red Sox change the course of baseball history by selling **Babe Ruth** to the Yankees. **1934** Fenway Park catches fire for second time — no word yet whether **John Lackey** was a suspect. **1957 Jackie Robinson** tells the Dodgers to shove it and retires rather than accept being traded to their hated rivals the New York Giants. **1963** The Chargers crush the Boston Patriots 51-10 to win the AFL championship game. **1971** Former heavyweight champ **Sonny Liston** is found dead at 36. **1988** The basketball world is stunned when **Pistol Pete Maravich** dies of a heart attack at 40. **1984 Adrian Dantley** ties NBA record of making 28 free throws in a game. **1996 Don Shula** retires with a most-in-NFL-history 324 coaching victories.

Sports 101: It will be tough for old-timers who remember the high top shoes and lack of speed, but believe it or not the ex-Giant Y. A. Tittle is number 2 in quarterback TD runs with 39.

The Numbers

2 — points allowed in the first quarter by the Pinkerton girls as they cruised to a 67-28 win over Lawrence (Mass.) in the opening round of the Greater Lawrence Christmas Tourney in North Andover, Mass.

4 — numbers of players in double figures when Central knocked off Memorial 52-41 in the opening round of the QCIBT when **Gabe (down for the) LaCount, Christian Artiga, Troy Pelletier** and **Junior Brown** combined for 48 of Cen-

tral's 52 points.

6 — free throws made by **Amra Elezovic** in the waning minutes as her Memorial team beat Central 41-38 in the QCIBT semi-final game.

9 — rounds into the shootout at the Bauer Christmas Hockey Classic at JFK Coliseum before **Easton Dubois** ended it with a goal to make Central 5-4 winners over Spaulding.

27 — points scored by **Bethany Kalliel** to go along with 11 rebounds in leading the Derryfield School to a 53-31 win over Inter-Lakes.

36 — saves by **Ian Belliveau** when he faced 17 more shots than his counterpart **Steve Tempesta** when Central downed Bedford 3-2 in OT at the Baur Christmas Hockey Classic where **Mitchel Fortin** got the game-winner 3:36 into OT.

54 — seconds into the game when **Brady Bilodeau** started the snow ball rolling for Memorial on its way to a 6-1 win over Bedford in their opening-round match at the Bauer Christmas Hockey Classic when **Patrick (moe, Larry and) Curley** had a huge day in going for a hat trick.



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Handshake-to-handshake combat

Why face-to-face campaigning can still make a difference in New Hampshire

By Adam Coughlin and Jeff Mucciarone

The aroma of maple syrup, bacon and griddle smoke hung thick in the air at Joey's Diner in Amherst in mid-December, as Texas Congressman Ron Paul sidestepped cameramen, reporters and tables to shake hands with the eatery's patrons. Paul worked the room quickly for the most part but paused to answer questions and for photographs. After the hand-shaking, Paul spoke to the diners for a few minutes and then took several questions. The diners were there to see him, courtesy of the Amherst Town Republicans.

"Most people in Congress don't have a strong philosophy," Paul told the diner crowd. "Their philosophy is to get reelected."

It was a typical New Hampshire political event — the candidate shakes hands, looks voters in the eye and makes his case. Following the stop at Joey's Diner, Paul sprinted to the Homestead Grocery and Deli in Amherst, then to downtown Milford to work patrons and employees of its downtown businesses. He stopped to sign a set of skis at Souhegan Cycleworks in Milford. Paul hosted a meet-and-greet at Langer Place Mill in Manchester

later that same day, and then rounded out the day of events with a town hall-style meeting in Derry. In all, a typical presidential campaign day — at least historically so.

Real exchanges between candidates and voters are part of what makes our first in the nation primary such a prize for voters. But such exchanges, and campaign events that allowed them, seemed less plentiful in New Hampshire this go-round — primary watchers saw fewer days filled with retail politics stops this season than they did in the past. Paul has put in his ground work and certainly Jon Huntsman (former governor of Utah and, most recently, former ambassador to China) and Rick Santorum (former Pennsylvania senator) have, but, at least among the candidates with national name recognition who are still in the race, that's about it. Mitt Romney, the presumptive frontrunner and former Massachusetts governor, has spent plenty of time in New Hampshire, but he hasn't spent a great deal of time with traditional retail politicking.

"Fewer and less," said Fergus Cullen, former New Hampshire GOP chairman, when asked to characterize the primary. "Fewer

candidate appearances, less TV ads, fewer signs, fewer opportunities for voters to interact with candidates. Not that there haven't been any opportunities; New Hampshire remains a place that provides a unique opportunity to see candidates in person. There have just been fewer of those than there were in the past."

Candidates have discovered they can get to 20 percent in the polls on the cheap, by relying on cable television and social media and by having a viral moment in a debate, Cullen said.

"They can get the same bang for fewer and fewer bucks," Cullen said.

But the lack of tough questioning from voters, and in some cases the media, might leave GOP candidates vulnerable in the general election.

"In a lot of ways, these candidates aren't tested in the way that our candidates were before entering the general election," said Holly Shulman, communications director for the New Hampshire Democratic Party. Shulman wasn't sure the lack of retail politics in this primary was a sign that campaigns were trending away

from traditional hand-shaking. “We saw it in 2008. This time around it seems that the GOP campaigns made a strategic decision to avoid as many questions from voters about their policy positions as possible, since the candidates’ are supporting policies that are far out of touch with most voters.” Shulman said.

And this lack of face-time with voters was only part of what political watchers saw as a lack of a “ground game” — the organization and staff in New Hampshire and Iowa — among several of the candidates this primary. While a viral online video or a good night at a debate could help propel a candidate to the top of a poll, the lack of the old-fashioned campaigning needed to back up those surges left many one-time up-and-comers — think Texas governor Rick Perry, Minnesota U.S. Congresswoman Michele Bachmann or businessman Herman Cain — unable to make the most of their moments in the spotlight, according to analysts.

Man-on-the-street debates

As Romney learned when he talked same-sex marriage at a New Hampshire diner a few weeks back, part of retail campaigning is disagreeing with the voter right in front of you. Consider this exchange between Paul and a voter:

“I like what you’re saying about bureaucracy and the FDA and their really overstepping their bounds,” said one prospective voter at the Langer Mill meet-and-greet event in December. Paul had just spoken about how he believes the U.S. Food and Drug Administration was causing more problems than it was worth. “How do you reconcile the benefits that an organization like the FDA yields with all of that bad stuff? An example, immunization rates are dropping.... In a free market system, you’d probably say if you want to get vaccinated, go get vaccinated. I am not going to bet my kid’s life that I am expert enough to know. I have to rely on someone else. What do I do? Do I buy that knowledge?”

“Why wouldn’t you rely on your judgment and your doctor to be smarter than a bureaucrat that’s paid for by the drug companies?” Paul responded. “Right now, I wrote an article on this idea that every kid in school needs to be examined for possible mental health disease. They’ve done some trial studies on this and 10 percent or so end up getting put on psychotropic drugs. And that’s because the state makes the decision. It’s not like if the state doesn’t do it, somebody else won’t do it. There are different ways of doing it. We didn’t have them doing that in the beginning of our history. To assume that if the government won’t do it, nobody will do it — when the government does it, the problem there is, if they make a mistake, it’s really rough on all of us. If you make a mistake, or one individual makes a mistake, it doesn’t mean everybody else has to suffer.”

As the conversation continued, the man persisted:

“I guess what I’m wondering is how do you reconcile in the policies, because I like what I’m hearing I just don’t understand, how do you reconcile the benefits that an organization like the FDA or the SEC yield, without also bringing along all the baggage?” the man asked Paul.

“Don’t ever assume the benefits wouldn’t come if we didn’t have the FDA,” Paul said.

The voter might not have liked Paul’s response, but the answers were real. And the questioner, who presumably hadn’t made his mind up about who to vote for, was asking real questions — classic New Hampshire retail politics.

At a Romney appearance in Bedford on Dec.

20, the environment was far more staged. One of the criticisms leveled at Romney is that he is too perfect — his hair is always perfect, his suits crisp, his face tanned. So this election cycle, the tie is gone. In Bedford, Romney wore jeans. But the casual stance stopped there; he took no questions from the audience. The speech kicked off a bus tour that took him to Keene, Newport, Hanover and Ashland. For the most part, he was protected from reporters’ questions.

The same can be said of former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. Since gaining the Union Leader endorsement Gingrich has been a virtual no show in New Hampshire. As of the end of the calendar year, Gingrich’s last full day in the Granite State was Dec. 12, when he visited two technology companies (Insight Technology and Dyn), participated in a Lincoln-Douglas debate with Huntsman and attended a town hall meeting in Windham that more than 1,000 people attended. It was a day full of momentum and positive press for Gingrich. Then he disappeared, coming back only for a few hours on Dec. 21 when New Hampshire Speaker of the House William O’Brien endorsed him in Manchester.

During these trips there was little interaction between Gingrich and potential voters. During one of these rare moments, Brian McCall, an employee at Dyn who grew up in Tennessee, South Carolina and Georgia, posed with Gingrich for a photo wearing a University of Georgia baseball cap and a Clemson University cap. McCall told Gingrich it was nice to see a southern boy up north. The moment was both awkward and rare. After being endorsed by O’Brien, Gingrich didn’t take any questions from reporters.

A notable feature of this primary is the substitution of national media exposure — cable news, debates and national polling — for traditional retail politics and grassroots organizations, said political analyst Dean Spiliotes.

“It’s driven by technology and this particular group of candidates,” Spiliotes said, adding the national exposure has been a proxy for doing the typical grassroots stuff. “Some are doing it the traditional way, like Ron Paul or Jon Huntsman.”

Naturally candidates can’t be in every place at the same time. One quick fix is to send a spouse or child to act as a surrogate. On Thursday, Dec. 29, the Romney boys — Josh, Tagg, Craig and Matt — stumped around New Hampshire letting people get to know a different side of their dad.

“Our job is to not make big news,” Tagg Romney said. “We want the headline to be: Romney’s sons campaign for dad.”

“We can gush about him,” Matt Romney said. “It doesn’t look as good to gush about yourself.”

Primary predictions

We asked some local experts to make a guess as to how Jan. 10 will shake out. **James Basbas:** Romney 36 percent, Paul 19 percent and Gingrich 14 percent (surprise finish: Santorum 7.5 percent, not great but double his recent polling).

Fred Karger: Romney wins and his goal is to beat Rick Santorum and/or Michele Bachmann.

Fergus Cullen: Romney will win, but beyond that, a lot depends on what happens with Iowa. Cullen figured four candidates in New Hampshire would win delegates, which requires 10 percent of the vote. He’s going with Romney as the winner and Huntsman, Gingrich and Paul rounding out the top four, all with at least 10 percent of the vote, though he said he couldn’t guess the order.

During an interview with the Hippo, the brothers talked about why their father should be president, what it is like to emotionally invest in a campaign and how to grow immune to the negative chatter. They also said that their father had learned from 2008 and waited to do a full

Primary fun

Looking to get in on the political circus? Here are a few upcoming events.

• **How to Become President and Save the World**, a show in which Jim McCue, who has been on Comedy Central and NBC’s *Last Man Standing*, will jokingly discuss foreign policy, politics and why tall people make better presidents on Friday, Jan. 6, at 9:30 p.m. at the Radisson Hotel, 700 Elm St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$25. Visit headlinerscomedyclub.com

• **The Economy and the Electorate: A New Hampshire Primary Heartland Briefing**, which will include a panel of campaign officials, national pollsters, party strategists and leading economists discussing the economy on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the New Hampshire Institute of Politics at Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. The event is free but registration is required. Visit nh2012heartlandmonitor.eventbrite.com.

• Nationally televised **debate on ABC**. In the last primetime primary debate before the NH primary, ABC News joins Yahoo in sponsoring a debate, which will be moderated by ABC’s Diane Sawyer and George Stephanopoulos. It will be held on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 9 to 11 p.m., at Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester.

• In case you went out Saturday night, an **NBC News-Facebook Meet the Press Debate** will be nationally televised on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 9 a.m. the Chubb Theatre at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord; however, tickets are not available to the general public.

• **Jimmy Tingle’s American Dream**, a show mixing a screening of comedian Jimmy Tingle’s documentary with live performance of highlights from his one-man show “Jimmy Tingle for President: The Funniest Campaign in History,” on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 4 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St. in Concord, concordcityauditorium.org. Tickets cost \$15 in advance at jimmytingle.com, \$20 at the door. (See page 65 for more.)

• **Patriocracy**, a politically charged documentary, will air in a special screening on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 4 p.m. at the New Hampshire Institute of Technology’s Sweeney Auditorium, 31 College Drive in Concord. The presentation will include a panel discussion with National League of Women Voters President Elisabeth MacNamara and former Congressman Paul Hodes. Admission is free. Visit patriocracymovie.com.

• Ernest Thompson’s **Political Suicide**, four short plays written and directed by the Academy Award-winning author of *On Golden Pond*, will be performed on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 2 and 8 p.m., Monday, Jan. 9, and Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 8 p.m., at Pitman’s Freight Room, 94 New Salem St., Laconia. Tickets cost \$25 (\$20 for seniors and students). Visit whitebridgefarmproductions.com or call 744-3652.

• A **Primary Watch Party** will be held on primary night, Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 6 p.m. at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St., Suite L1-1, Concord. Attendees will be able to join international journalists as they watch the voting returns come in. The party is free and open to the public. RSVP to Concord City Councilor Rob Werner at rwerner@acrr-form.org or call 674-9810.

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court media press until December so he would surge at the right time.

Romney doesn't seem to be alone with this strategy. Toward the middle of last month, candidates began transitioning from nationalized and centralized approaches to the primary back to a more localized approach, where, at least to an extent, candidates were hitting the pavement. Some of course were more focused on Iowa, but the approach became more local.

"Finally there's been this transition to a ground game," Spiliotes said.

Year of the Mitt Romney alternative

In years to come, the 2012 Republican Primary may be remembered as the time Republicans looked for any alternative to Mitt Romney and failed. Over the past year candidates have risen and fallen, all taking their best shots at the former Massachusetts governor. Yet in New Hampshire and perhaps nationally, Romney has weathered the storm.

A poll of New Hampshire's likely Republican voters, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center and released on Dec. 25, showed support for Romney at 39 percent while Newt Gingrich and Ron Paul are tied at 17 percent, and Jon Huntsman at 11 percent.

"I think Romney wins fairly easily in New Hampshire," said James Basbas, vice president of Altos Marketing, who runs the 2012 Presidential Election Facebook page.

Even one of Romney's opponents, Fred Karger, who is running as the first openly gay Republican, felt the former Massachusetts governor could run away with it. A former political strategist, Karger said he understood why Romney wanted so many primaries front loaded. If Romney wins Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and Florida, the primary could be over quickly.

While other candidates have surged, Romney has remained steady, particularly in New Hampshire. Romney's support in New Hampshire polls has remained between 35 and 42 percent, while other candidates have risen and fallen.

"This is still Romney's to lose, certainly in New Hampshire," Spiliotes said. "There were a rough couple weeks with the Gingrich surge. I think that unnerved them a little bit. But they seem to have regained their footing. That's my sense."

But the path to the nomination is far from clear. It's entirely possible that the first three contests, Iowa, New Hampshire and South Carolina, could produce three different winners. That would mean a longer process.

"Ron Paul is a bit of a wild card in Iowa," Spiliotes said. "I think he has a reasonable chance. He has focused on the ground game."

Reports and pundits suggested Romney had a real shot in Iowa as well, something that seemed unlikely at times during the campaign. Of course, at the last minute in the days leading up to the caucus, the longtime campaigner but previously low-poll-numbers-having Rick Santorum was starting to see an increase in support, another example of nearly all of the major candidates having their moment at being the not-Romney.

Despite changes in poll positions, Spiliotes said he always viewed Romney as the true frontrunner for the nomination.

Romney's steady presence in the polls is a credit to his strategy and his campaign organization. He's spent the last six years working the state, keeping in touch with the organization, retaining nearly all his support from the last go-around and cultivating his support at least

some, Cullen said.

"I just think there are a lot of lessons to be learned from Romney's campaign on what a candidate ought to do," Cullen said.

Romney is not going to generate a great amount of support among tea party types during the primary. Romney, in Spiliotes's eyes, was never going to win over hardcore conservatives from more "litmus-tested" conservatives like Rick Santorum or Michele Bachmann. If Romney could keep his support from straying — which he seems to have done so far — he could garner substantial support in a general election among more moderate and independent voters. He'd be better at getting the middle ground of support than more extreme, right-wing candidates would be, Spiliotes said. This might be evident in the Dec. 29 Rasmussen poll, which found Romney leading President Obama 45 percent to 39 percent.

Still first, still important

Basbas said a Romney victory in New Hampshire would validate the importance of the New Hampshire primary and retail politics. He said the national rise of candidates like Herman Cain and Newt Gingrich made it seem as if campaigns and elections had changed, with an emphasis on social media and national exposure.

No candidate did this more successfully for a time than Gingrich, whose campaign looked dead back in June when much of his senior staff fled saying they didn't think the former speaker's heart was in the game. Very telling of the times was that these staff members were rumored to hook up with the then-hot-test candidate: Rick Perry. And yet Gingrich emerged as Romney's strongest challenger in November and early December after several spirited debate performances and receiving the endorsement of the Union Leader, which was played up by the national media.

"The conversation became 'Look how well Gingrich is doing,' I guess New Hampshire doesn't matter any more," Basbas said. "But as we got closer to voting and Gingrich started coming to New Hampshire and people got to know him, you saw his support level off."

Basbas said Romney's New Hampshire campaign is well-built and in the end that would pay off for him. In fact, Gingrich's poll numbers began to dwindle in the weeks leading up to Iowa and New Hampshire. There are great contrasts in comparing the New Hampshire campaign staffs of Gingrich and Romney. Each reflects the candidate and his potential success in the state.

Going back to that UNH-conducted poll, Romney's numbers have remained remarkably constant during the many rises and falls of his opponents, which shows his campaign has been able to fight off different attacks. Gingrich surged in popularity following the UL endorsement but only gained 2 percentage points over that time.

Campaigns reflect candidates

Romney's campaign is led by New Hampshire veterans like Jim Merrill, brother of former governor Steve Merrill, and Ryan Williams, who was most recently the communications director for the state GOP. Romney also received the endorsements of major political figures like former governor John Sununu, former senator Judd Gregg and U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte. The New Hampshire staff works in close unison with Romney's headquarters in Boston.

Romney has visited the state 28 times over

a total of 44 days, according to WMUR’s candidate tracker.

In 2008, Romney’s strategy was to win big in Iowa and New Hampshire, thereby essentially ending the campaign early. When Mike Huckabee won Iowa and John McCain won New Hampshire, Romney’s campaign was essentially sunk. This time around, the campaign has prepared for every conceivable situation. His campaign has been called efficient and controlling, much like the candidate himself.

Gingrich’s New Hampshire campaign often mirrored the candidate as well. (Full disclosure: reporter Adam Coughlin’s brother James joined Gingrich’s staff after the suspension of the Herman Cain campaign, where he previously worked.) It is led by Andrew Hemingway, who is running his first campaign and has often been a champion of conservative principles as the former chair of the Republican Liberty Caucus of New Hampshire. Unlike the Romney campaign, Hemingway has almost complete autonomy over Gingrich’s message in the Granite State.

The campaign has grown with Gingrich’s success. After the first debate held in June at Saint Anselm College, shortly after the collapse of his campaign, Gingrich was represented in the spin room by his daughter, Jackie Gingrich Cushman. Gingrich didn’t even open a New Hampshire office until Nov. 11. While Gingrich doesn’t have the breadth of endorsements that Romney does, he has been endorsed by the Union Leader and New Hampshire Speaker of the House Bill O’Brien.

Cullen figured pundits and analysts would look back on Gingrich’s decision not to campaign aggressively in New Hampshire in December. He received a gift of an endorsement from the Union Leader, but campaigned in the Granite State only twice during the month, Cullen said.

“When the history of the primary is written, there will be a lot of questions about that decision not to campaign in New Hampshire in

December, when he got that golden opportunity handed to him,” Cullen said.

Gingrich had essentially no organization on the ground in New Hampshire until a couple weeks prior to the Union Leader endorsement. Cullen said he suspected Gingrich didn’t have the infrastructure in place to take advantage of the opportunity the newspaper gave him.

The different levels of organizational preparedness came to a head on Dec. 22 when only Romney and Ron Paul qualified to be on the Virginia ballot. Virginia requires a candidate to submit 10,000 signatures from voters registered in the state of Virginia and those signatures must include 400 from each of the state’s 11 Congressional districts. That means Gingrich, who lives in Virginia, will not be on the ballot, nor will Perry, Santorum, Bachmann or Huntsman.

The Paul machine

Unlike Bachmann, Perry, Cain or Gingrich, Paul has never been the flavor of the week. The race has often been referred to as Romney versus the candidate of the moment and oh yes, there is always Ron Paul. Paul is known to have fervent supporters but he is also known to have a cap on support. The suggestion is that his ideology is too far outside the mainstream and so he would only be so popular. But he is organized. This organization is helping him in Iowa, where some polls in the last weeks of December had him winning, and in New Hampshire, where his poll numbers, although far behind Romney’s, are the only ones moving in the right direction. The perfect scenario for Paul is to win Iowa and then have some of that momentum help him to a strong finish in New Hampshire.

“Paul has a ceiling,” Basbas said. “He has energetic voters who will vote regardless of the weather, but Romney isn’t losing any sleep over losing to Paul in Iowa.”

Even with all of that organization in place, Paul is finding out that it is a different game

Meet the candidates

With the primary on Tuesday, Jan. 10, most of the candidates are in a mad dash around the state, which offers a great chance for you to see a candidate in person.


- On Thursday, Jan. 5, **Newt Gingrich** is scheduled to host a town hall meeting at the Littleton Opera House at noon and then another one at the Great North Woods Welcome Center in Lancaster. That night Gingrich will also host a town hall in Meredith at 7 p.m. For more details, check out newhampshire.com.
- **Mitt Romney** is scheduled for a variety of events but none had been finalized by deadline. His website, mittromney.com/states/new-hampshire, is updated regularly.
- **Jon Huntsman**, who has spent a considerable amount of time in New Hampshire, is scheduled to visit the north country. He’ll be holding a town hall at the Newport Recreation Department on Thursday, Jan. 5, 7-9 p.m. and then visiting the Littleton Area Chamber of Commerce at the Mount Washington Hotel on Friday, Jan. 6, beginning at 6:45 p.m. Huntsman will be in North Haverhill on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 9 a.m. hosting a town hall and then he’ll host a town hall at Keene State College on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 7 p.m. Visit jon2012.com.
- **Rick Santorum** is scheduled to participate at the College Convention 2012 on Thursday, Jan. 5, 3:30-5 p.m. at Grappone, 70 Constitution Ave., Concord. That night he’ll host a Windham Town Hall at 3 North Lowell, Road, Windham at 7 p.m. On Friday, Jan. 6, Sen. Santorum begins his day at Lin-

- dy’s Diner in Keene before hosting events in Keene, Jaffrey and Dublin. He’ll be in Manchester hosting a town hall at Belmont Hall, 718 Grove St., at 4 p.m. before heading to the Hillsborough County Republican Gala at the Crowne Plaza in Nashua at 6 p.m. Santorum is scheduled to be back at it on Saturday, Jan. 7, beginning at 8 a.m. with a meet and greet at Julien’s Corner in Manchester. At 11 a.m. he’ll be going door to door in Manchester’s Ward 2, he’ll be stopping by Homestead Grocery & Deli Meet and Greet at 12:30 p.m. in Amherst. He’s scheduled to hold a town hall in Hollis at 2 p.m. and then stopping by the Hollis Pharmacy and General Store at 3:45 p.m.
- **Ron Paul** will attend both the ABC and NBC debates so he’ll be in New Hampshire. Visit ronpaul2012.com for more information.
 - Following the Iowa caucus, **Rick Perry** will head to South Carolina but will be back in New Hampshire for Saturday’s and Sunday’s debate. Visit rickperry.org.
 - **Michele Bachmann** will likewise attend the two debates, according to campaign spokeswoman Alice Stewart. Any additional events will be listed at michelebachmann.com.
 - **Buddy Roemer** will be speaking at the Nashua Republican Committee on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua. On Friday, Jan. 6, Roemer will also be in Nashua at the Crowne Plaza at the Hillsborough County Republican Gala at 6:30 p.m. Visit buddyroemer.com/events.

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when you are considered a contender. His past has undergone an invasive sweep by the media and some controversial statements and opinions have come to light. Recently there has been a rediscovery of a series of racist and homophobic newsletters that were published under Paul's name in the 1980s and '90s. While Paul denies writing these, it almost doesn't matter, as they were published under his name. One read: "95 percent of the black males in [Washington, D.C.] are semi-criminal or entirely criminal." The Union Leader ran an editorial last week characterizing Paul as "dangerous."

Former aide Eric Dondero defended Paul, saying he is categorically not racist. Yet Dondero called Paul's foreign policy views "complete lunacy" in a column for rightwingnews.com.

Whether he's a legitimate contender for the nomination following New Hampshire and South Carolina or not, expect to keep hearing from Paul.

"Ron Paul can live off the land for months," Cullen said. "I don't expect him ever to drop out formally. He'll always have a level of support to coordinate the vote in primary after primary." With that in mind, Cullen said it was difficult to speculate where Paul's support might go if he begins to fall in the primaries.

Candidate roulette

If anybody says they foresaw Gingrich's surge to the top of national polls, they're lying, Spiliotes said. That said, looking back, Spiliotes said pundits perhaps should have seen it coming or at least acknowledged its plausibility sooner, given the emphasis in this primary on the debates and cable television.

Republicans wanted somebody who could stand toe-to-toe with Obama in debates, somebody who could throw some good punches. Gingrich seemed in his element in debates, criticizing questioners and the media in general and appearing to have a strong handle on issues.

"I don't know that it's typical but it's not unusual," Spiliotes said of the rise and fall of various candidates. "You have voters searching around for somebody who they not only think is viable but who best represents their particular Republican angst. To some extent they're trying different candidates on for size. It's been a little more unusual because it's been magnified by the weekly debate horse race."

This emphasis on debates has made life much more difficult on candidates entering the race with low national name recognition, like former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson and California political strategist Fred Karger. Karger said not being included in the debates has been his biggest hurdle. He said he doesn't think debates were as much watched or as prominent four years ago as they are now. Karger said he participated in a recent paper by political adviser Mark McKinnon that examines the unfairness of media-controlled debates.

Cullen tossed some blame at voters for the rise and fall of so many candidates.

"They've seen images and they've projected ideals of what candidates stand for, instead of waiting until they've earned it," Cullen said. "It's like a high school freshman who falls in love with a senior. They seem great in the abstract and they're projecting good qualities, but once you get to know them, you find out they're a jerk. In this case, they're not as good a candidate as you'd hoped they were."

"Herman Cain, in hindsight, it's amazing to think we ever treated him as a serious candidate," Cullen added. "The history record will read that he was knocked out by questions

about allegations regarding various women. The truth is, he would have fallen on his own merits. Before long, we would have realized he was simply unqualified to be president of the United States."

Perry wasn't prepared to be a viable candidate, nor was Bachmann, Cullen said, but people were willing to tell a pollster they supported a candidate without even knowing anything about him.

Paul and Gingrich were certainly not the first long shots to get a longer look from the media and the public. It was obvious from the beginning of the primary that Republicans around the country were looking to beef up the field. Thus the courtships with Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie began. When both of these men declined to enter the race, Republicans hoped to turn to Congressman Paul Ryan or even Jeb Bush. Perhaps some would have reconsidered their decisions.

"I think Tim Pawlenty, if he could do it over, he would have done a lot differently," Cullen said. "He probably would not have participated in the Iowa straw poll, and he may feel he left prematurely after that disaster."

Karger said he believes Sarah Palin is probably ruining the fact that she didn't enter the race. But he believes the other candidates are happy with their decisions. Citing those Ron Paul newsletters from the '80s, Karger said the scrutiny of a presidential campaign is more than most people would want.

"We've all done things we regret," Karger said. "Who wants things they did in 1980 coming out now?"

Looking at how Gingrich and Cain rose in polls with limited funding, other candidates might give a run a deeper look in the future, Cullen said, noting Sen. John Thune, whom many talked about as a candidate but who ultimately decided against running.

"[Thune] may have doubted he could raise the money to be competitive, but he may look back at what [Gingrich] did with \$5 million and Herman Cain with \$3 million and think, 'I could have at least done that.'"

Future candidates might look at a run and think they don't have to raise \$25 million to \$50 million to get at least some initial recognition. They could go low-budget, relying on social media and cable-television to build name recognition.

2012 has also been different because of the frequency of debates. While Basbas did say the debates seemed like they were on overkill (there will be two more debates before the primary — Saturday, Jan. 7, and Sunday morning, Jan. 8), he felt the more focused debates were helpful. He enjoyed getting depth in the debates that targeted a specific topic like economics or foreign affairs. Perry's repeatedly bad performances and his now famous "oops" moment may have killed his campaign.

"Rick Perry was the biggest loser [at the debates]," Basbas said. "It sunk him."

Still time for another surge?

"I think if it were to happen, it would be right around the time of the voting, where... something changes right around the time of the caucus that catapults somebody," Spiliotes said. "Is there time for another rise and fall? Probably not. Could there be some kind of sleeper? Maybe Huntsman does really well in New Hampshire or Santorum in Iowa. If it's going to happen, it'll happen right around the caucus. We're running out of time in that respect."

As this piece is being finalized, the reports out in Iowa suggest it's Rick Santorum who could be the dark horse candidate rising up the charts. Such a surge shouldn't be surprising. Santorum has not relied on debates, polls or pundits — all of which are based on no actual votes — and instead has worked hard on the ground in both New Hampshire and Iowa, visiting all of Iowa's 99 counties and earning endorsements from conservative leaders.

Whoever wins Iowa or comes in a close second will certainly be helped in New Hampshire. Romney is probably hoping that if he doesn't take Iowa Ron Paul does. Most pundits don't see Paul as a likely nominee down the road even if he were to take Iowa. If Gingrich rebounds and takes Iowa, that could springboard him to a good showing in New Hampshire and potentially a win in South Carolina.

Spiliotes has an eye on the developing ground game in New Hampshire to see who garners some momentum or lack thereof. He'll be watching closely how the victor in Iowa uses that victory in New Hampshire.

A nationalized approach

The country has seen sequential surges from different candidates who were focused on televised debates, national polling and cable news. It's made the actual primary somewhat invisible, and it's been less about grassroots organizations and raising money, Spiliotes said.

"It doesn't surprise me at all," Spiliotes said, adding that people increasingly use debates or appearances on Sunday morning network news programs as substitutes for actual fundraising and retail politicking. It's allowed a handful of candidates to operate on a shoestring budget and become front runners, but then scramble to set up a ground organization. "This is a logical continuation of the role of technology, the Internet and cable media."

Karger agrees. He said previously campaigns relied more on traditional advertising. He credited President Obama with changing the game through his use of social media. He said these outlets have allowed him to stay in the race on a shoestring budget. He remembers in his earlier strategist days being so excited when the fax was invented. But even then he'd still have to pay long distance fees. Karger, who described himself as an independent Republican who supports gay marriage, the legalization of marijuana and abortion rights, joked he was jealous of Cain, who upstaged him as a political outsider. Karger said he could have been the one who rose and then fell.

Cain's rise from obscurity to the top of the polls showed just how powerful social media have become.

"It is a powerful tool in getting your message out," Basbas said. "It can help you build a brand. But it only gets you in the game. You've got to have the personal touch to get you over the line."

Basbas said in politics as in the rest of life, Facebook friends are not the same as real friends. A candidate may be able to generate news headlines and Twitter followers, but once in the booth the voter is often thinking of personal connections.

Jon Huntsman is banking on that. Huntsman often says he is not one to light his hair on fire. As a result he has never captured the headlines of the national media. But he has been on the ground in New Hampshire pounding the pavement. Huntsman has spent 64 days in New Hampshire, according to WMUR's candidate tracker. This is much more than Perry

(13), Bachmann (14), Gingrich (21), Paul (33) and Santorum (44). He does trail Gary Johnson (66) and Karger (86 days).

Yet can an essentially one-state campaign win? Basbas said he will be fascinated to see the results and whether such a strategy has any future in presidential politics.

"For a positive, Huntsman has shown ability on foreign affairs," Basbas said. "I wonder sometimes if he is running for Secretary of State."

A view from the White House

Speaking of the Secretary of State, there is still some speculation out there (most recently by Robert Reich in Business Insider) that Hillary Clinton might swap places with Joe Biden and join Obama on a super ticket. While this is unlikely, it might inspire some Democrats to become reenergized about 2012. These Democrats (and probably President Barack Obama and his staff) would rather see Newt Gingrich's name on the ballot instead of Romney's.

"For all the angst among conservatives about running Romney as the nominee...Romney would be able to pick up votes where Gingrich would not be competitive. Independents are increasingly disaffected with [Gingrich], which is a good thing for Romney," Spiliotes said.

Democrats are hitting the entire field hard right now.

"The contrast voters will have in November will be very clear," Shulman said, noting Republican stances on the payroll tax cut, Jon Huntsman referencing the EPA's "reign of terror," and Republican candidates opposing Obama's American Jobs Act. "The contrast is already drawn," Shulman said. "There is a very clear choice."

But never underestimate the power of the incumbency. Recently, there have been some improvements with the economy that will benefit the president in his reelection bid.

"Nothing to make them relax," Spiliotes said. "Certainly congressional Republicans have not helped themselves recently. There have been small improvements in consumer spending this holiday season, improvements with unemployment, but certainly not where [the Obama campaign] can be confident. It maybe looking a little bit better."

The Obama campaign in New Hampshire has held hundreds of events, including house parties, phone banks and door-to-door canvases — drawing the contrast on issues like American Jobs Act and Wall Street Reform. are three offices up and running in New Hampshire, with four more expected to open in the next couple weeks.

Obama's approval ratings are sitting now in the 43- to 45-percent range. If he can get that up to 48 or 49 percent approval, he can probably eke it out, Spiliotes said.

The attention has gone to Republicans with the primary in full swing, but the Obama reelection campaign is putting together its ground game as well.

Primary Blog

During the days leading up to the primary keep checking our blog, 2012nh.com. With all of the candidates in the state making the final push, there is sure to be some excitement. We'll be crashing debate parties, interviewing candidates and searching for our long-lost brother, George Hippopotamus, err, Stephanopoulos.

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The first in Hippo's four-part series about feeling fit and healthy inside and out

New year, new resolutions to get healthy.

Whether your goal is to lose that 10 pounds or just keep the flu at bay this season, January is a great time to think about taking better care of yourself so that you can feel better, look better and enjoy the year.

In this week's Look Good, Feel Great section, we're going to look at some ways to get more exercise and have fun doing it. Adam Coughlin looks at Krav Maga, a form of martial arts that can give you self-

defense skills and an increased level of fitness. Kelly Sennott looks at the newest roller derby league, which is looking for new members. Angel Roy tackles football and Jeff Mucciarone looks at yoga, but both with a twist. It's the ladies of the Freedom who are looking for players on the field in Angel's story, and Jeff looks at attempts to make yoga the workout of choice for more men.

As always, talk to your doctor before trying any new diets or fitness regimes. Then get limber and have fun working up a sweat.



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JANUARY • FEBRUARY • MARCH • 2012

MONDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Acrylic Painting	8	6:00-8:00	129	varies	1/23
Algebra 1 (High School Credit)	15	5:30-8:30	325	10	1/30
Archery	4	6:30-7:30	79	-	1/30
English (High School Credit)	15	5:30-8:30	325	-	1/30
French 1 ~ Level 2	10	7:00-8:30	124	-	1/23
French 1 ~ Level 1	10	5:30-7:00	124	50	1/23
Gourmet Vegan (Total Vegetarian) Cooking:					
Class #1 ~ Soup, Ziti, Cookies	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	1/30
Class #2 ~ Linguini, Tempeh	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	3/12
Class #3 ~ Soup, Mac, Pilau	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	4/2
Class #4 ~ Salad, Noodles	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	4/23
Italian 1 ~ Level 1	10	7:30-9:00	124	94	1/23
Italian 1 ~ Level 2	10	6:00-7:30	124	75	1/23
Knitting & Crocheting 1	10	7:00-9:00	139	-	1/23
Organic Gardening	1	6:00-9:00	35	-	4/9
Psychic Development I:	10	6:00-8:00	139	4	1/23
Intuitive Powers of the Mind to Awaken Your Spiritual Self					
Quilting	8	6:00-8:30	149	varies	1/23
Song Writing, Introduction	4	6:00-8:00	79	-	1/23
Spanish ~ Adv. Conversation	10	6:00-7:30	124	-	1/23
Starting Seeds Indoors	1	6:00-9:00	35	-	2/13
Stress Management w/Yoga	10	4:00-5:00	99	-	1/23
Understanding Stock Market	3	6:00-7:30	39	-	1/23
Violin Made Easy	10	7:00-8:30	124	45	1/23
Zumba Fitness (M+W)	10	5:15-6:15	109	-	1/23
Zumba Toning (M+W)	10	6:15-7:15	109	-	1/23

THURSDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Ballroom Dance:					
Triple Step Swing	10	6:00-7:00	75/sgl-149/cpl	-	1/26
Advanced Beginners	10	7:00-8:00	149/cpl	-	1/26
Performing Term	10	8:00-9:00	149/cpl	-	1/26
Digital Camera Usage Made Easy	8	6:00-8:30	139	-	1/26
Drawing:	8	6:00-8:00	129	-	1/26
Using the Right Side of the Brain					
Gentle Yoga	10	6:00-7:00	119	-	1/26
Guitar ~ Level 1	10	6:00-7:30	124	10	1/26
Guitar ~ Level 2	10	7:30-9:00	124	10	1/26
Living & Working GREEN	8	6:30-8:00	109	-	1/26
Indian Cuisine Cooking:					
Class #1 ~ Ginger Chick Peas	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	1/26
Class #2 ~ Fritters, Spicy Peas	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	2/2
Class #3 ~ Nine Veggies	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	2/9
Class #4 ~ Homemade Cheese	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	2/16
Class #5 ~ Spices & Chutney	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	2/23
Class #6 ~ Eggs, Orka	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	3/1
Class #7 ~ Veggies w/Rice	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	3/8
Class #8 ~ Burger, Chutney	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	3/15
Class #9 ~ Potatoes, Paneer	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	3/22
Class #10 ~ Lentil, Puff Rice	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	3/29
Class #11 ~ Yogurt, Peppers	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	4/5
Native People of New England:	6	6:30-8:30	109	-	1/26
Pre-Contact to Present					
Organic Gardening	1	6:00-9:00	35	-	2/16
Selling at a Farmer's Market 1	1	6:00-9:00	35	-	1/12
Sign Language 1 ~ Level 1	10	6:00-8:00	139	36	2/2
Sustainable Gardening	6	6:00-8:00	124	-	1/26

Defensive Driving Course

This is a State of NH, 6 hour, -3 point traffic violation course. Classes meet at Concord High one Saturday a month. You must be pre-registered and have prepaid. The cost is \$50. Classes do fill up - Early registration is suggested. Dec 17 or Jan 14 or Feb 11 or Mar 10 or Apr 21

TUESDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Chair Caning	6	6:00-8:30	124	varies	1/24
Freelance & Creative Writing 1	7	6:00-8:15	129	-	1/24
Embroidery	1	6:30-8:30	24	varies	1/24-3/27
Register for any Tuesday or all. One project per Tuesday. Extra cost varies for each project, pay instructorw Kitchen Towel w Sampler w Apron w Napkin w Bookmark w Wall Decor w Baby Bibw Pillow Cover w USA Flag w Table Runner/Scarf					
German 1 ~ Level 1	10	7:00-8:30	124	-	1/24
German 1 ~ Level 2	10	5:30-7:00	124	-	1/24
Gluten Free Living	2	6:00-8:00	34	10	1/24
Herbal Life: From the Garden & Kitchen to Your Health					
Class #1 ~ Tonics	1	6:00-9:00	29	5	1/24
Class #2 ~ Cooking Breakfast	1	6:00-9:00	29	5	1/31
Class #3 ~ Mood / Energy	1	6:00-9:00	29	5	2/7
Class #4 ~ Asian Cuisine	1	6:00-9:00	29	5	2/14
Class #5 ~ Women's Health	1	6:00-9:00	29	5	2/28
Class #6 ~ Baking	1	6:00-9:00	29	5	3/6
Class #7 ~ Herbal Teas	1	6:00-9:00	29	5	3/13
Class #8 ~ Herbal Luncheon	1	6:00-9:00	29	5	3/20
Italian 2 ~ Level 2	10	7:30-9:00	124	94	1/24
Italian ~ Adv. Conversation	10	6:00-7:30	124	-	1/24
Learn to Sing	6	6:00-8:00	119	-	1/24
Learn to do Voice overs	1	7:00-9:00	35	-	3/27
Quilting	8	9:30-Noon	149	varies	1/24
Photography: High Dynamic Range	8	6:30-8:30	129	-	1/24
Real Estate	10	5:30-9:30	269	60	1/24
Reiki 1	4	6:30-9:00	109	1	1/24
Reiki 2	4	6:30-9:00	109	-	2/28
History of the Holocaust (HS Credit)	15	5:30-8:30	325	-	1/31
Sour Dough Bread Making	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	2/21
Stamping & Scrapbooking:					
Class #1	1	6:00-9:00	24	5	1/24
Class #2	1	6:00-9:00	24	3	2/14
Class #3	1	6:00-9:00	24	5	2/28
Class #4	1	6:00-9:00	24	3	3/13
Class #5	1	6:00-9:00	24	5	3/27
Class #6	1	6:00-9:00	24	3	4/10
Tai Chi	10	4:30-5:30	99	-	1/24
Woodcarving, Introduction	10	7:00-9:00	189	CALL	1/24

SATURDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Chemistry w/lab (H.S. Credit)	15	9:00-12:00	325	100	1/28
Chinese for English Speaking Children: (Grade 4 - 10)					
Beginners 1	10	9:30-11:00	124	15	1/28
Beginners 2	10	11:00-12:30	124	15	1/28
Chinese Games for All Ages:					
Majiang and Chinese Chess	2	10:00-12:00	35	-	1/7
Conversational Chinese for Adults: (16+)					
Beginners 1	10	9:30-11:00	124	15	1/28
Beginners 2	10	11:00-12:30	124	book	1/28
Intermediate	10	11:00-12:30	124	book	1/28
Defensive Driving Course	1	7:30-2:00	50	12/7 or 1/14 or 2/11 or 3/10	

Concord Adult Diploma Program

Concord School District offers an evening program allowing people to pursue their high school diploma by taking high school credit courses and earning credits towards graduation. Each student's program of study is different. Course needs are determined by qualifying courses previously taken in high school and other places. Additionally, credit for work, homemaking, military and other experiential learning is computed according to Department of Education guidelines. In order to schedule an appointment we must have a copy of your high school transcript.

Call (603) 225-0804 to set up a day or evening appointment.

WEDNESDAY

COURSE	WKS	TIME	TUITION	EXTRA	DATE
Ballroom Dance Beginners	10	6:00-7:00	149/cpl	-	1/25
Ballroom Dance Intermediate	10	7:00-8:00	149/cpl	-	1/25
Ballroom Dance Advanced	10	8:00-9:00	149/cpl	-	1/25
Biology w/Lab (High School Credit)	15	5:30-8:30	325	100	2/1
Chinese Home Style Cooking:					
Class #1 ~ Singapore Rice	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	1/25
Class #2 ~ Sesame Chicken	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	2/8
Class #3 ~ Spicy Eggplant	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	3/7
Class #4 ~ Ginger Chicken	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	3/21
Class #5 ~ Steamed Shrimp	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	4/4
French Adv. Conversation	10	5:30-7:00	124	-	1/25
French 2 ~ Level 2	10	7:00-8:30	124	-	1/25
Garden Record Keeping	1	6:00-9:00	35	-	2/15
German Intermediate	10	6:30-8:00	124	-	1/25
Knitting & Crocheting 2	10	7:00-9:00	139	varies	1/25
Laughter: The Best Medicine	6	6:00-7:00	49	-	1/25
Parenting Your Gifted Child	4	6:00-7:00	35	-	1/25
Piano 1	8	6:00-7:00	109	7	1/25
Piano 2	8	7:05-8:35	99	7	1/25
Psychic Development II:	10	6:00-8:00	139	4	1/25
Ancient Wisdom for the Modern World					
Repairs for the Homeowner	10	6:00-8:00	139	-	1/25
Russian 1 ~ Level 1	10	7:00-9:00	139	28	1/25
Russian 2 ~ Level 1	10	5:00-7:00	139	book	1/25
Self Hypnosis	3	6:00-7:30	39	-	1/25
Small Engine Repair	8	7:00-9:00	129	12	1/25
Sour Dough Bread Making	1	6:00-9:00	24	14	2/22
Spanish 1 ~ Level 1	10	6:00-7:30	124	19	1/25
Spanish 1 ~ Level 2	10	7:30-9:00	124	-	1/25
Stained Glass	8	6:30-9:00	175	85	1/25
Tibetan Bowl Sound Relaxation	6	6:00-7:00	49	-	1/25
Tools For Living	6	6:30-8:30	124	10	1/25
Yoga Teacher Certification	10	6:00-8:30	139	-	1/25

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\$195	Intro. to Windows	6:00-9:00	Jan. 23, 24, 25, 26
\$95	Intro. to the Internet	3:30-5:30	Jan. 10, 11, 12

Word Processing:

\$195	MS-Word ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Jan. 30, 31, Feb. 1, 2
\$50	MS-Word ~ Templates, Styles & Sections	6:00-9:00	March 12
\$195	MS-Word ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Mar. 26, 27, 28, 29
\$95	MS-Word ~ Merge Workshop	6:00-9:00	April 11, 12

DataBase:

\$195	MS-Access ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Feb. 20, 21, 22, 23
\$195	MS-Access ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Apr. 2, 3, 4, 5

Graphic Presentation:

\$195	PhotoShop ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Feb. 14, 15, 21, 22
\$195	PhotoShop ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Mar. 6, 7, 13, 14
\$195	PowerPoint ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Feb. 28, 29, Mar. 1, 2

Internet:

\$95	Examine Your Business Marketing Plan	6:00-9:00	January 17, 18
\$50	Getting Traffic to your Website	6:00-9:00	January 30
\$50	10 Ways to Make \$\$ Online	6:00-9:00	February 1
\$145	Intro. to Ebay	5:30-7:30	Mar. 5, 12, 19, 26

Misc.

\$145	MS-Office Overview	5:30-7:30	Jan. 23, 30, Feb. 6, 13
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Spreadsheets:

\$195	MS-Excel ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Feb. 6, 7, 8, 9
\$95	MS-Excel Formula Workshop	6:00-9:00	March 14, 15
\$195	MS-Excel ~ Level 2	6:00-9:00	Mar. 19, 20, 21, 22

Financial:

\$195	QuickBooks ~ Level 1	6:00-9:00	Mar. 5, 6, 7, 8
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3. Your credit/debit card number and expiration date.

#2 BY MAIL OR E-MAIL

Fill out the registration form and mail in with your check, money order or charge/debit card information to:

Concord Community Education
170 Warren Street, Concord, NH 03301.
email: class@concordnhschools.net

#3 WALK-INS MON-THU

Our office is open to accept your registration Monday through Thursday, 7:00 am - 7:00 pm located off the Auditorium Foyer in Concord High School, 170 Warren Street, Concord.

Registrations can be filled out and left under the door (in a sealed envelope) of the Community Education Office (with payment) any other time the school is open and we are not. Please do not leave cash!

#4 BY FAX: 225-0826

Fax registration form, with credit / debit card or business billing information.

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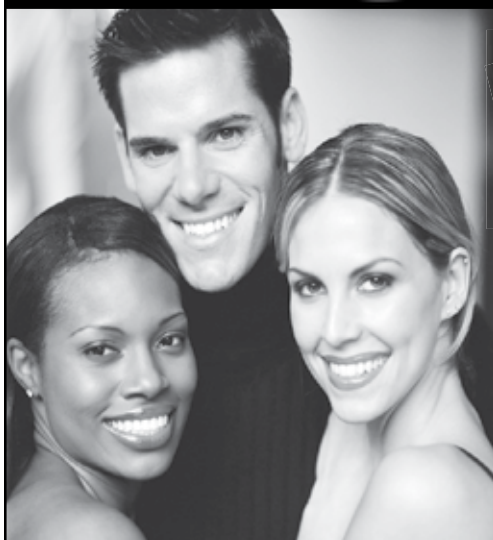
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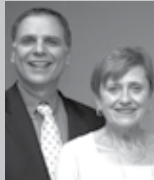
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Participants engage in Krav Maga. Courtesy photo.

Fight club

Krav Maga offers a workout survival skills

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

What do the streets of 1930s Bratislava and an exercise facility in Salem have in common? A whole lot more than you would think.

It was on those Czechoslovakian streets that Imi Lichtenfeld was openly persecuted for being Jewish. In response, the young man, who was an accomplished boxer and wrestler, invented his own fighting style to defend himself against attack. Lichtenfeld felt that traditional martial arts were too steeped in sport; on the street, survival was most important. Thus he combined a variety of fighting styles into what is now known as Krav Maga, according to Lee Puzniak, who instructs Krav Maga at the Salem Defense Center, salemcdc.com.

When the Jewish people got their own homeland in 1948, Lichtenfeld was hired to teach the Israeli Defense Forces. Krav Maga is currently used by their regular defense forces as well as special forces and intelligence agencies like Mossad and Shin Bet. It is now used by military and police around the world.

Upon his retirement, Lichtenfeld modified his Krav Maga to be used by citizens. It is this version that is now taught in Salem.

What is Krav Maga?

Krav Maga is a form of hand-to-hand combat that emphasizes natural movements and attempts to get its practitioners as conditioned and proficient as possible in the shortest amount of time, according to Puzniak, who teaches the practice full-time.

Martial arts take years to master and many of their moves begin from a position of advantage. Krav Maga is different. It takes a realistic approach to its teaching. If, in real life, you were forced to defend yourself from true violence, you would most likely be at a disadvantage. So in a Krav Maga class, students fight against larger opponents, or they are distracted or hit while they aren't ready or they do cardio exercises to the brink of exhaustion and then are forced to defend themselves.

"There have been a lot of incidents lately in New Hampshire and Massachusetts of people being attacked during crimes," Puzniak said. "This is an effective way of simulating real attacks."

In sports, athletes get style points for beauty. But in the streets the only judge is survival. So Krav Maga teaches students the quickest way to end a situation.

Students undergo countless drills and repetition so they can thoroughly understand a move. But the practical defense skills that people learn, plus the unbelievable cardiovascular workout, has made Krav Maga a very popular form of physical exercise.

A typical class

Puzniak said a typical class begins with a warm-up and then some dynamic stretching so that all participants are loose and ready for a workout. They then begin with striking drills — punches, kicks, moves used in a self-defense scenario. After much practice, they end the class with reaction drills where they use the moves they have learned.

"Every class you get a great workout plus you learn skills you can use in the parking lot," Puzniak said.

Part of its appeal is this constant learning and the ability to reach practical goals. Puzniak said it can take years to earn a black belt in the martial arts. In his classes, the students — who range from 17 years old to people in their 40s — see results quickly, which encourages them to stay with it. These students come from all walks of life. Naturally many law enforcement and fire personnel are attracted to the fighting style, but Puzniak said he has plenty of working professionals. Some come to the class because they're sick of the health club scenes and want to make a committed effort to getting in shape.

"We have one student who lost 110 pounds," Puzniak said. "That isn't uncommon. This class gives people confidence to take care of themselves."

One student travels three hours from Vermont once a week to attend the class. The reason is that Krav Maga World Wide is a pure system, which means that Puzniak is a direct descendent of Lichtenfeld (meaning he learned from someone who learned from someone who learned directly from Lichtenfeld).

To stay current, Puzniak heads to Los Angeles a couple of times a year for updated training. And Puzniak knows a thing or two about fighting. He has been doing martial arts since he was 10 years old and was one of only two non-Japanese nationals to win the Eastern Japan Karate Champion-

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ships, which is a bare-knuckle, bare foot, full-contact competition (think Jean Claude Van Damme's *Bloodsport*).

Yet he never felt like he found a complete fighting style until he got turned on to Krav Maga. But one of the benefits of conventional martial arts is that they take time to master and over that time the students can learn a respect and appreciation for their new skill. Is there any risk in quickly giving people the skills to deliver violence?

Puzniak doesn't think so.

"Classes are really instilled with a code of conduct," Puzniak said. "While there isn't the master-student relationship and it is more like coach-athlete, there is definitely a certain way to behave. Those who come in with the wrong attitude do not last long."

In fact, those who have the right attitude receive benefits far greater than simple fighting skills. Puzniak said school teachers can see clear changes in students who participate in Krav Maga. Puzniak said since the kids do moves in front of each other, they learn to overcome shyness. Plus they work

with their peers holding bags. There is also growth in self-control as they are put in tense situations and taught to control their emotions for safety.

"They gain great social and physical confidence," Puzniak said.

Krav Maga is a fighting philosophy, which allows room for a lot of discussions. Puzniak is able to wax on morality, the legality of using force, bullying and non-violent encounters, like walking away or talking situations out.

"It is good for daily living as well," Puzniak said. "The principles work for business as well: being aggressive but not unethical. It translates to a lot of things."

The camaraderie is also a big part of the activity. Puzniak said people often go out for dinner as a group after workouts.

"I was creating a business," Puzniak said. "The last thing I expected was to make friends. But I did."



Members of the New Hampshire Freedom Women's Tackle Football Team. Courtesy photo by Jes Quesada.

Madame QB

Women can train now for the spring football season

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Ray Simoneau purchased the New Hampshire Freedom (formerly the Manchester Freedom) women's tackle football team eight years ago when the team was going to be dissolved, as it was up for sale and no one was ponying up to take it on. He bought the team out of love for his daughter, who played on the team at the time, and thought his ownership would only last a couple of years.

"But I'm still here," Simoneau said. "There is definitely a need for an outlet for women to play football."

The all-women team plays by NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) rules.

"What you see on TV on Sundays, this is what you're looking at. It's banging, hitting, running, tackling, getting-dirty football," Simoneau said. "[The players] don't believe it's just a man's game anymore."

Simoneau said the success of the New England Patriots may have sparked interest in football among women in the state. "It's like the [Boston] Bruins in the 1970s. No one really knew about hockey until the Bruins started winning. It brought everyone

out to play hockey," he said. "Since the Pats won the Super Bowl, the focus on football got bigger."

For Julie Carignan, football was the "next great challenge" after college. She joined the Freedom in 2001 and retired two years ago. She now serves as the team's defensive coach. Carignan, a former linebacker and safety, also played on U.S. Women's National Tackle Team.

"We all grow up playing the same sports. We played backyard football with our cousins and friends growing up," she said. "We don't want to play against the guys ... it's kind of a challenge for people to try to accomplish."

One difference in how the game is played by the women's league is that women's center of gravity is in their hips whereas men's center is in their chest. "We wouldn't want to play males," Carignan said. "It doesn't make sense for those body types to fight each other."

Football combines different elements of many sports, Carignan noted. The whole field is used. The sport involves using your hands and learning offensive and defensive positions.

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Civics/Economics	Elective	D.Pare	1	Monday	Feb.6-May28	3-5pm	\$160
Geometry	Academic	D.Kalloger	1	Monday	Feb.6-May28	3-5pm	\$160
Algebra 1	Elective	K. Sargent	1	Tuesday	Feb.7-May29	6-8pm	\$160
SAT-English	Elective	P. Galamaga	1/4	Tuesday	Feb.7-April3	6-8pm	\$75
GED-Language	N/A	K.McDermott	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.7-May29	6-8pm	\$30
English	Academic	P.Galamaga	1	Tuesday	Feb.7-May29	3-5pm	\$160
Biology	Academic	K. Greeb	1	Tuesday	Feb.7-May29	6-8pm	\$175
Chemistry	Academic	S.Tower	1	Tuesday	Feb.7-May29	6-8pm	\$175
Tai-Chi	Academic	M. Roth	½	Thursday	Feb.9-April19	5-6pm	\$100
Meditation/Movement	Academic	M. Roth	½	Thursday	Feb.9-April19	6-7pm	\$100
SAT-Math	Elective	C. Russo	1/4	Thursday	Feb.9-April5	6-8pm	\$75
GED-Math	N/A	B.Carey	N/A	Thursday	Feb.9-May31	6-8pm	\$30
Backyard Birding	Academic	N.Lambert	½	Thursday	March22-May31	5-7pm	\$100
Physical Science	Academic	K. Greeb	1	Thursday	Feb.9-May31	5-7pm	\$175
Creative Welding	Academic	R.Caradonna	½	Thursday	Feb.9-April19	3:45-5:45pm	\$100+\$25
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QuickBooks-Tips&Tricks	Enrichment	C.Duval	N/A	Tues&Thurs	May 1 & May 3	6-8pm	\$50
Basic Computer	Enrichment	Jill Beeckman	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.7-March20	6-8pm	\$70
Bhangra/Bollywood dance fitness	Enrichment	SpicyMoves/D. Stuart	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.7-April3	6-7pm	\$80
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OSHA 10Construction Certification	Enrichment	P.Stango	N/A	Tuesday	Feb.21-April 3	6-8pm	\$75
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Jewelry Making	Enrichment	D.Erickson	N/A	Thursday	Feb.9-March29	6-8pm	\$80
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Creative Welding	Enrichment	R.Caradonna	N/A	Thursday	Feb.9-April19	3:45-5:45	\$80+\$25
Creative Welding	Enrichment	R.Caradonna	N/A	Thursday	Feb.9-April19	6-8pm	\$80+\$25
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Many hospitals now offer Reiki to patients. "A rising star in three areas: pre- and post-op, anxiety and depression, and oncology, Reiki provides comfort and promotes healing." Libby has taught Reiki to the staff of many hospitals, including Southern New Hampshire Medical Center, Dartmouth-Hitchcock, Mass General, Brigham and Women's, Beth Israel, Children's, Emerson, and New York Presbyterian.

Libby is an author of one of the most widely read books on Reiki - *Reiki Energy Medicine, Bringing Healing Touch into Home, Hospital, and Hospice*, which has sold over 65,000 copies.

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So if you've played other sports, "you just take the skills you've learned and put them into a new sport," she said. Football, she added, allows for women of all shapes and sizes to participate. "It doesn't matter what body type you are," she said. "We will find a spot for you."

Players get what they want out of the game in regard to skill and knowledge, Simoneau said, adding that what it all comes down to is heart.

"They love the game so much," he said. "A lot of players have had knee surgeries and we expect them to quit but they come back."

Quarterback Jamie Naylor, 30, of Salem, said during her eight years on the team, the worst injury she has experienced is a sprained ankle.

"All the bumps and bruises — I don't really consider those injuries," Naylor said. Players must provide proof of health insurance, though the league does offer an affordable supplemental insurance for those without.

Players pay \$850 in user fees each season to play on the New Hampshire Freedom and are encouraged to seek sponsorships to defray the cost. The money is put toward the cost of field time — the team practices at the New Hampshire Sportsplex in Bedford during the winter and plays its games at West Memorial Field in Manchester. The team has to budget \$12,000 for facilities alone. Equipment (helmets, shoulder pads, leg pads for hips and thighs and practice gear, pinnies and uniforms) is provided for all players and must be returned at the end of the season. The user fees would likely decrease if more players joined the team, Simoneau said.

"I hate charging these girls outrageous fees, but it costs money to get all of the equipment and to pay for a bus trip to wherever we go," he said.

The team trains indoors, twice a week, from January through March. Coaches start the season by teaching players basic skills, footwork and handwork. The different positions of the game are learned by the time the team is ready to start training outdoors and

that is when the focus is put on stances and ball handling. It is on the field at Manchester West that players start working on plays and attacks, Carignan said. The season proper, during which the Freedom plays other teams in the Independent Women's Football League, begins in April and runs through the end of June.

The team recruits by word of mouth and its online presence. It is not able to recruit from local colleges because it is not affiliated with them. The Freedom has never had a full roster of 45 but came close last year, starting the season with 34 players.

"We still struggle to get together a whole team but I think that's because we're not well-known," Naylor said. "Most people we talk to are surprised there is a women's tackle football team in New Hampshire, or a league at all."

"I think there are a ton of women out there that would love to play and be very good once they know we're here," she said.

New players are allowed to start by learning the positions they are most interested in, while being evaluated by the coaches, who will make changes according to ability.

"A lot of women come to us with no clue how to play football, but if they are an athlete we can train them to play football," Carignan said. New players will be accepted through Jan. 8 and Carignan said rookies should prepare to join the team by getting in shape — even if it just means walking for a 30 minutes a day.

"You gotta get moving and get stretching," she said. "We'll put the skills in when you get here."

Team tryouts involve running drills, broad and vertical jumps.

Naylor had a few tips for potential players: "Give it a shot," she said. "I didn't know a lot of the technique or things like that. You can come into the game knowing nothing about football and be a successful player.... It's a lot of commitment but it's definitely the most rewarding thing I've ever done."

Visit newhampshirefreedom.com to learn how to join the team.

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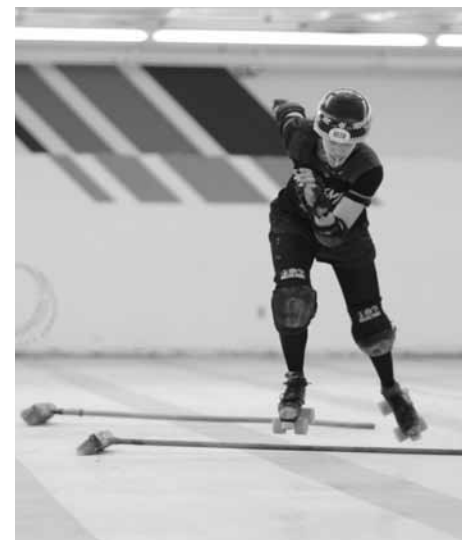
Roller Derby Manchester seeks skaters of all levels

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

You may have seen them whisking around a street corner during their routine endurance skate, or rolling along in Manchester's Spirit of New Hampshire Parade this winter. You may not know, however, that Manchester's Roller Derby team is in a "revamping year."

Roller Derby Manchester is a new roller derby team in Manchester, composed of new and old skaters, many of whom are former Manch-Vegas Roller Girls. The team trained outdoors all summer long and is just beginning to get settled in its new training facility: an abandoned Rite Aid at the Shaw's plaza in Goffstown.

The new team members are hoping to make the sport more widely watched and more widely played in Manchester. With recruiting under way, Roller Derby Manchester (RDM) is looking not only to bring new members to the new, competitive Manchester Mayhem (women 18+), but also to recruit members for a recreational, co-ed team called "Manch-Wreckers" and



Trixie Driver jumps over obstacles in an agility drill at RDM's new training space. Photo Credit: Jesse O'Brien

a junior roller derby team for girls between the age of 12 and 18 called "Slaughter Daughters."

The Manch-Vegas Roller Girls are currently on hiatus, and that status has allowed

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for some reform in Manchester Roller Derby, led by RDM president and Manchester Mayhem co-captain Katrina Swirko, formerly known as “Chick Anery.” She’s one of the first skaters in New Hampshire to have abandoned her skater name, and she hopes that others will follow.

She’d like to bring a new philosophy into the sport: less show, more action.

“I just want to bring some integrity to the sport. Derby is headed in a more professional, athletic direction, anyway; I see this as being more common in the future. If we’re ever going to be generally accepted as real athletes, we need to get rid of the sideshow names,” Swirko said. “We’re trying to be more family-friendly; we’re trying to be taken more seriously and be seen as a real sport.” Roller Derby in the past has been seen almost as a staged sport, not unlike pro-wrestling for women, Swirko said.

While Derby is fun with its crazy outfits and fierce names, it’s an intense physical sport. Newbie, or “nugget,” Deandra Smith can attest to that.

“I grew up in the ’80s, and from what I saw of it before I joined, the actual game is not like how it is stereotyped,” Smith said. She found it to be a very demanding sport, requiring speed, strength and agility, not elbow jabs and tripping techniques (both of which are illegal in the sport).

“You have to have endurance to play — and it’s actually very strategically played,” Smith said. Smith, who joined the team last August, decided to pick up the sport on whim. At 35, the Lexington client account manager said she was someone who loved to work out (deeming herself the “kickboxing queen”) but had very little experience in playing sports. Yet she took to skating and blocking like no other. Now she works out on wheels instead of by kickboxing.

The game of roller derby is played five on five, with four blockers and one jammer per team. The jammers are typically the skaters built for speed, and it is their aim to earn as many points as possible by getting through the other team’s “blockers.” Points go to the team whose jammer passes each blocker. The blockers abide by strict rules and learn proper blocking technique through three-days-a-week training.

“I really did like that it was a sport that was dominated by women. I was looking for a sport that was geared towards what I would be good at,” Smith said. She also noted that because the sport is uncommon, it’s not uncomfortable to be a newbie, since most people who join have little or

no experience. Smith had ever participated in Roller Derby before joining the team.

Manchester Roller Derby welcomes players of all experiences and ages, men and women; all they ask for is some sweat and hard work.

“You basically have to be willing to put your all in it! Of course you’ll mess up trying something new. What you need to have, however, is competitiveness,” Smith said.

Game season is typically from April to September, and during the off-season the Derby players practice outdoors, in abandoned parking lots, warehouses, or on the streets for long endurance skates. They practice Monday and Thursday nights from 7:30 to 10 p.m., and Saturday morning, typically 9 to 11 a.m. The team is very excited about their new venue, as the indoor space allows them to better practice their stride and smooth out their knee-drops, plow stops and recovery.

Derby also provides great camaraderie.

“There are nurses, lawyers, teachers who play — which is totally not who I was expecting to find playing. It’s amazing to know who these women really are outside of the team,” Smith said.

Newbies are required to view one practice before taking part in roller derby, and there is gear on loan for those trying out the sport. However, personalized derby gear is crucial for comfort and performance, Swirko said, so it is expected that members eventually purchase their own gear. No roller skating experience is necessary, and all skaters must pass ILevel 2 WFTDA (Women’s Flat Track Derby Association) skill requirements to compete on the home teams; higher levels are required in order to skate with Manchester Mayhem. (This is acquired through practicing with the team.)

For those who want to be a part of the Manchester Derby legacy but don’t exactly want to lace up the skates, the team is also always looking for sponsors, volunteer managers, graphic designers, etc. RDM works closely with local businesses and organizations and is run by committees of skaters and non-skaters.

Roll out!

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Downward facing dude

Yoga classes are seeing more men

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

Getting men to strike a yoga pose can prove difficult, but area instructors are noticing it’s becoming more and more popular in New Hampshire.

For men, there can be an element of fear — yoga is an unknown, while just going to the gym, lifting weights or running on a treadmill is familiar. Kc Cooley, yoga instructor with Symmetry Pilates Center (www.symmetrypilatescenter.com) in Bedford, said she sees New Hampshire as a little more conservative than other places,

and some men may be afraid that they’ll be seen as doing something feminine. Maybe a man is comfortable with doing yoga, but it’s still not easy for someone to tell his buddies he’s skipping Monday Night Football for a yoga class, Cooley said.

Cooley has noticed that men usually inquire about yoga because of a referral from their doctor, because they’re looking to meet someone who is devoted to fitness and being healthy, or because of a general interest in yoga. Cooley said men don’t typically approach yoga with the spirituality component of the practice in mind, though spirituality is central to the practice.



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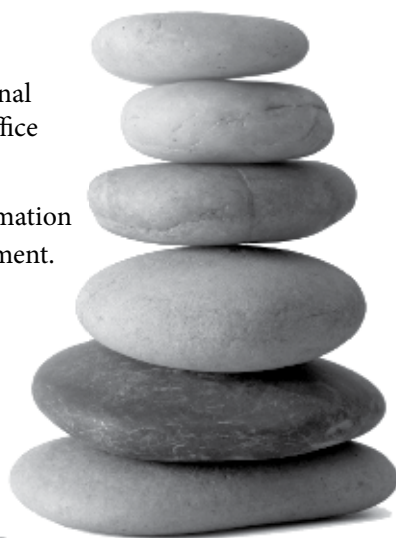
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Sometimes it can be challenging to get men to try out yoga, but instructors are noticing yoga is becoming more popular among men. Pictured here is a class at Bikram Yoga Concord.
Photo courtesy of Bikram Yoga Concord.

There is potentially the fear of being the only man in a class full of women who all know what they're doing. (Instructors acknowledged that some men would probably enjoy that situation.)

Cooley, who hails from New York City where yoga is much more broadly accepted, said yoga's popularity is definitely growing in New Hampshire.

Yoga's history, interestingly enough, is tied to men more than to women. Roseann Latona, owner of White Swan Yoga (www.whiteswanyogastudio.com) in Manchester, said yoga was started by men, and initially women weren't even allowed to participate.

"Men need yoga just as much as women do," Latona said.

"Men get stressed just like women," Latona said, adding that yoga is beneficial for people who have trouble and pain stemming from their hips and back. "It helps you stay healthy and to stretch your body."

The benefits of practicing yoga are many, including muscle tone, increased energy and vitality, a more balanced metabolism, stress reduction and circulatory health, as well as spiritual benefits, according to www.yogamovement.com.

Latona estimated in any given yoga class, at least three-quarters of participants were female. That could be different depending on the yoga style and whether there is a male instructor. There is certainly a need for more male yoga instructors. That's not to say there aren't any, but more male instructors would potentially get more men, in general, into the practice. Latona does have a group of men who take part in a private yoga class with her.

For men, just like women, the physical benefits are substantial. Men who like to golf or ski, or who participate in any sport, will see benefits from yoga. Yoga works and stretches smaller stabilizing muscles that people often disregard. It's perfect for someone who is recovering from an injury, instructors say. While men might be accustomed to lifting weights, yoga is more about lengthening and toning muscles, increasing the range of motion.

But there are stigmas.

"[Men] might think it's too easy," Latona said.

"Men are usually surprised by how physically aggressive yoga is," Cooley said. "They think yoga is just peaceful, sitting

around saying Ohm all day, and there is that.... In yoga, you are constantly putting yourself into difficult, painful, sometimes frustrating positions and learning how to breathe through them."

Experiencing the frustrations of difficult positions helps people in everyday life — that's why yogis have an easier time dealing with and breathing through difficult and stressful life situations, Cooley said.

With yoga, participants are very mindful of what they're doing the entire time. Instructors show participants how to engage certain muscles — perhaps muscles people aren't used to engaging — and to hold positions, Latona said.

"It's a different type of work," Latona said. "It is active even though it is still thought of as still and focused."

"There is a certain flow to it," Latona said. "For men, that can be a foreign thing. It feels good but they might not be used to it."

Yoga, itself, is an umbrella. Underneath that umbrella lies a variety of styles and not every style fits with every person. Cooley said she believes yoga is for everyone, but every style isn't for everyone.

"Shop around," Cooley said. "Do your homework. It's very important to find a good teacher. Be very open-minded before you commit or before you cast it aside."

"Once they're in there, they're down for it," Cooley added.

As far as expectations go for men: expect the unexpected, Cooley said.

"Expect to be pushed to the limit," Cooley said. "You're learning to breathe consciously throughout different poses.... If you have no experience, go in and do what you can."

It's not a competition, which is another fact that might be foreign to men. Latona said she thought men were more competitive by nature, and she stressed that yoga is not a sport; it's a practice.

"You have your little space on your mat and you're only competing with yourself," Latona said.

Cooley said she prefers to teach in studios without mirrors. She said people often focus too much on what they look like if there are mirrors to look at. Additionally, she prefers not to practice herself while she's teaching.

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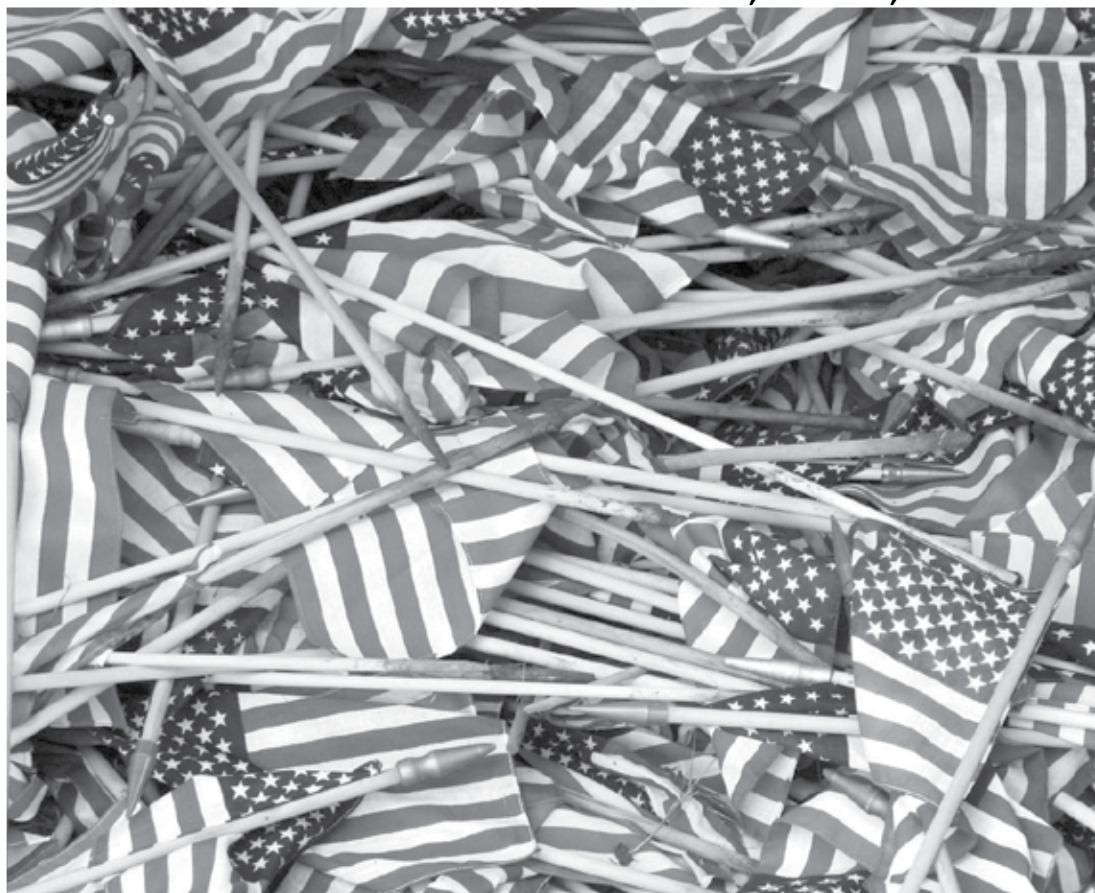
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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT JAN. 5 - 11, 2012, AND BEYOND



Tuesday, Jan. 10

We've lived it for about a year; now watch the results. Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St. in Concord, 224-4600, www.redrivertheatres.org, will host a free New Hampshire primary returns watching party tonight starting at 6 p.m. International journalists will be on hand to offer their perspective. Light refreshments will be served. The event is open to the public and does not require tickets but RSVP to Concord City Councilor Rob Werner at rwenner@accreform.org or 674-9810.



Saturday, Jan. 7

Bundle up to see the stars at the UNH Observatory in Durham tonight from 8 to 10 p.m. The session is free and good for all ages (particularly for children in first grade and older), according to a press release. The observatory is unheated; dress accordingly. These public viewing sessions will continue on the first Saturday of each month through April. See www.physics.unh.edu/observatory.



Saturday, Jan. 7

Get the kids playing some b-ball. The New Hampshire Spartans and Lady Spartans Basketball Club will hold tryouts this afternoon and evening for the spring session at the Sports Zone in Derry. The club offers sports for boys and girls of all ages and ability. Third- and fourth-graders will try out from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., fifth- and sixth-graders from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., and seventh- and eighth-graders from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. See www.nnhds.net or e-mail spartansbasketball@live.com.



Sunday, Jan. 8

Just because it's chilly outside doesn't mean you can't still hit the streets for a run. Runners of all ages and abilities can participate in the Freeze Your Buns race series hosted by the Gate City Striders. The first race is today at 9 a.m. at the Conway Arena, 8 Riverside St. in Nashua. Admission costs \$5 per race for adults, \$4 for ages 15 to 18 and \$3 for those under 15. You can also register for all five upcoming races. See www.gatecity.org.



Tuesday, Jan. 10

The Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St. in Dover, www.childrensmuseum.org, will consider the meaning of "home" in its new exhibit opening today in Gallery 6. "What Is Home?" will run through March 4 and feature works from different artists on the idea of home, such as "Meeting at Home," by Fleur Palau (pictured above).

— Jerome Duval / Owner, Broker

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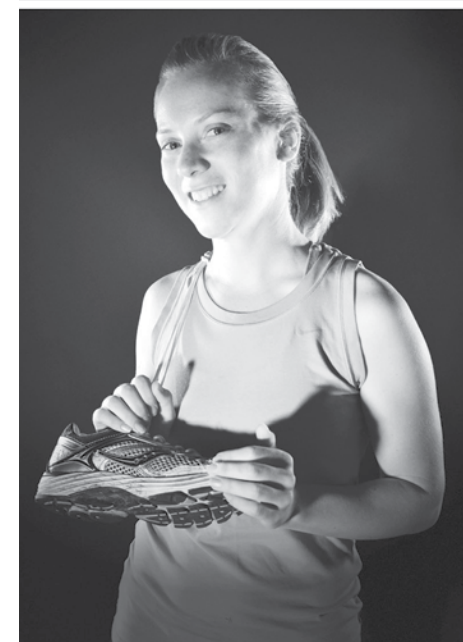
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Free: Music

The classical scene is relatively quiet for the first few weeks of January after all the holiday fanfare, but you can still get some sounds of the season at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Centre St. in Concord, with "Carols of the Epiphany Season" on Sunday, Jan. 8, at 4:30 p.m. Admission is free. Call 424-4743.

Cheap: Monster truck action

See the Grave Digger and other bone-shaking monster trucks at the Advance Auto Parts Monster Jam on Friday, Jan. 6, at 7:30 p.m., and Saturday, Jan. 7, at 2 and 7:30 p.m. at the Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St., Manchester, verizonwirelessarena.com, 644-5000.

Splurge: Mice on ice

Mickey and Minnie Mouse as well as a slew of other Disney characters will appear in "Disney on Ice: 100 Years of Magic," which will run at the Verizon Wireless Arena, 555 Elm St., Manchester, verizonwirelessarena.com, 644-5000, Thursday, Jan. 19, through Sunday, Jan. 22. Tickets cost \$20 through \$72. Shows are at 7 p.m. on Jan. 19 and Jan. 20; 10:30 a.m., 2:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 21, and noon and 4 p.m. on Jan. 22.

Party stories

Ernest Thompson introduces new political plays

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

New Hampshire is widely known as a center of presidential politics. But it also has world-class theater. It only makes sense that the two would be joined and the man to do it would be perhaps New Hampshire's most famous playwright.

Political Suicide is a collection of four new plays written by Ernest Thompson, Academy Award-winning writer of *On Golden Pond*, that will be performed 16 times over a two-month span beginning the weekend prior to the New Hampshire primary. Thompson not

Political Suicide

When: Sunday, Jan. 8, at 2 and 8 p.m., Monday, Jan. 9, and Tuesday, Jan. 10, at 8 p.m., as well as Fridays through Sundays, Jan. 13, Jan. 14, Jan. 15, Feb. 3, Feb. 4, Feb. 5, Feb. 10, Feb. 11, and Feb. 12, at 8 p.m. and Sundays, Jan. 15, Feb. 5, and Feb. 12, at 2 p.m.

Where: Pitman's Freight Room, 94 New Salem St., Laconia

Tickets: Cost \$25 (\$20 for seniors and students)

More info: Visit whitebridgefarmproductions.com or call 744-3652

only wrote the plays but will direct and star in them.

"One of Ernest's favorite topics is politics," said Morgan Murphy, a producer for Whitebridge Farm Productions, of which Thompson is CEO. "These are all comedies that make a statement but they don't come down on either side of the political spectrum.

"Ernest has the ability to use dramady to make you laugh while simultaneously being thought-provoking and heartfelt," Murphy said.

The first short script is *Potato Head for President*, which examines what voters look for in a candidate.

"People vote on what someone looks like or who has the best sound bite," Murphy said. "This play ... asks when did we lose caring about what a president stands for?"

The second play is *Occupy New Lexington*, which Murphy said takes a look at the Occupy movement. In this short, a young man in small-town New Hampshire wants to join the movement and so he starts his own but unfortunately no one shows up to hear his impassioned plea for the 99 percent. No one except the local police chief, according to production notes.

"This takes an honest look at the 99 per-

cent and what the Occupy movement means," Murphy said.

In *Welfare Thee Well*, Katrina Belair is penniless after her rich husband dies and leaves her nothing. Suddenly, for the first time in her life, she has to go on welfare. Murphy said this play examines what happens when you lose everything. He said many people in the country are going through difficult times and are being forced to swallow their pride.

The final play is *Rewrite*, which finds a U.S. Senator returning to his small hometown and wrestling with his career choices with the passionate and lovely local editor whom he knew at the beginning of his career. This play looks at the different ways we change over the years both personally and politically.

Besides the scripts there will be several new songs written by Thompson and composer Joseph Deleault. One song, "This Isn't Your Party," will be sung by Samantha Farrell, who has opened for the Dave Matthews Band. Another, "Someone to Care," will be performed by Christine Ohlman of *Saturday Night Live* fame.

Murphy said open auditions were held for the show, which will feature Pat Langille, Austine Howard, Meredith Imbimbo and Evan Clinton, in addition to Thompson.



Ernest Thompson. Courtesy photo.

"Ernest believes New Hampshire is the starting place for politics and that politics is about improving the place we live in," Murphy said. "If there is any underlining message from this show it is: go out and vote."

"I'm excited and think this is an important play," Murphy said. "I'm just happy he didn't ask us to perform in Dixville Notch."

32 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

35 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

36 Classical

Includes symphony and orchestral performances. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

THEATER LISTINGS

• **The Acting Loft**

670 North Commercial Street, Manchester in the Jefferson Mill Building. 666-5999, actingloft.org

• **Actorsingers**

219 Lake St., Nashua, 889-9691, actorsingers.org

• **Adams Memorial Opera House**

29 W. Broadway, Derry, 437-0505, derryarts.org

• **Amato Family Center for the Performing Arts at Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club**

56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002 ext. 2, svbgc.com

• **Andy's Summer Playhouse**

Wilton, 654-2613, andyssummerplayhouse.org

• **Anselmian Abbey Players**

Dana Center, 641-7700

• **Bedford Off Broadway**

Meetinghouse Rd, Bedford, 557-1805, bedfordoffbroadway.com

• **Bedford Town Hall**

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• **Bedford Youth Performing Company**

155 Route 101, Bedford, www.bypc.org, 472-3894.

• **Belle Voci**

bellevoci.org, 848-7986

• **Capitol Center for the Arts**

44 Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com

• **Concord Choral**

224-0770, concordchorale.org

• **Concord City Auditorium**

2 Prince St., Concord, 228-2793, www.theaudi.org

• **Concord Community Players**

224-4905, communityplayersofconcord.org

• **The Dana Center**

100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu

• **The Hampstead Theatre**

1355 Suncook Valley Hwy., Ctr. Barnstead, 1-800-619-5302, www.hampsteadstage.org

• **The Majestic Theatre**

281 Cartier St., Manchester, 669-7469, majestictheatre.net

• **Manchester Community Music School**

2291 Elm St., 644-4548, mcmusicschool.org

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• **Milford Area Players**

673-2258, milfordareaplayers.org

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• **Music and Drama Company (MADCo.)**

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• **Nashua Theatre Guild**

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• **New Thalian Players**

newthalianplayers.org, 666-6466

• **Nashua Community College Performing Arts Club (PAC)**

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428-3544

• **The Palace Theatre**

80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org

• **Peacock Players**

14 Court St., Nashua, 886-7000, peacockplayers.org

• **Pittsfield Players**

6 Depot St., Pittsfield, 435-8852, pittsfieldplayers.com

• **Profile Chorus**

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• **School of Theater Arts at The Amato Center for Performing Arts**

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7 Bayberry Way, Mont Vernon, 672-9664, stagecoachproductions.org

• **Stage One Productions**

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• **THE VOICE OF THE TURTLE**

will be performed Jan. 5 through Jan. 29 at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, Mass. Tickets begin at \$24. Visit merrimackrep.org or call 978-654-4678.

• **COMEDY, ENLIGHTENED** will be performed Jan. 6-Jan. 22 at the Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays, Jan. 8, and Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 22, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 (\$12

for students and seniors). Visit playersring.org.

• **TWELFTH NIGHT** will be performed Jan. 6- Jan. 22, at the NH Theatre Project, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Tickets cost \$24 (\$18 for seniors and students). Call 431-6644 or e-mail info@nhtheatreproject.org.

• **MAMMA MIA!** will be performed on Tues., Jan. 10, and Wed., Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m. at the Capitol Center for Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Tickets cost \$50, \$70 and \$100. Visit ccanh.com or call 225-1111.

• **TRIP TO BROADWAY** Will leave Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester at 8:30 a.m. on Fri., Jan. 13, and will leave New York City on Sun., Jan. 15, at 6 p.m. Cost is \$525 per person. Includes round-trip bus fare, two nights in a hotel and a ticket to *Sister Act*. Call 668-5588 or e-mail tinakelly@palacetheatre.org.

• **FRANKENSTEIN: THE MODERN PROMETHEUS** will be performed on Fri., Jan. 13, and Sat., Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 15, at 2 p.m. at Nashua North High School, 10 Chuck Druding Dr., Nashua. Tickets cost \$10 at the door. Call 557-2321.

• **LEND ME A TENOR** will be performed on Fri., Jan. 13, Sat., Jan. 14, Fri., Jan. 20, Sat., Jan. 21, Fri., Jan. 27, and Sat., Jan. 28, at 7:30 p.m. and Sat., Jan., and Sat., Jan. 28, at 2 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$15-\$45. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

• **COLLABORATORS** National Theatre broadcast on Sat., Jan. 14, at 1 p.m. at the Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Tickets cost \$25 (\$20 for students). Call 924-7585 or

On Stage



Survival of the funniest

Comedy, Enlightened, which will be performed Friday, Jan. 6, through Sunday, Jan. 22, is a collection of plays written by Eric Doucet and featuring the comedians of Darwin's Waiting Room. The group is a collection of more than 50 entertainers from the seacoast who have been performing since 2008. Shows will be performed at the Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, and are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays, Jan. 8, and Jan. 15, at 7 p.m. and Sun., Jan. 22, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$15 (\$12 for students and seniors). Visit playersring.org.

visit peterboroughplayers.org.

• **COLLABORATORS** National Theatre broadcast on Tues., Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Tickets cost \$26 (\$22 for seniors and \$15 for students). Call 225-1111 or visit ccanh.com.

• **THE IMMORTAL MARILYN** Authors John De Vito and Frank Tropea will lecture on Wed., Jan. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Portsmouth Public Library, 175 Parrott Ave., Portsmouth. Call 427-1540.

• **SHOUT! THE MOD MUSICAL** will be performed Jan. 19 through Jan. 28 at the Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. Shows are Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sat., Jan. 28, at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$20 and \$30. Visit rochesteroperahouse.com or call 335-1992.

• **THE CAPITOL STEPS IN CONCERT** will perform on Fri., Jan. 20, at 7 p.m. at the Dana Center, 100 Saint Anselm Dr., Manchester. Tickets cost \$6 to \$38.50. Call 641-7700 or visit anselm.edu/dana.

• **THE INTERGALACTIC NEMESIS** will be performed on Fri., Jan. 20, at 7:30 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. Tickets cost \$25, \$33 and \$45. Call 225-1111 or visit ccanh.com.

• **THE ENCHANTED ISLAND** The Met: Live in HD will be shown on Sat., Jan. 21, at 1 p.m. at the Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. Tickets cost \$25 (\$20 for students). Call 924-7585 or visit peterboroughplayers.org.

• **DRIVING MISS DAISY** will be performed on Thurs., Jan. 26, Fri., Jan. 27, and Sat., Jan. 28, at 8 p.m. and Sat., Jan.

Curtain Calls

• **Start thinking about your future:** Registration is now available for the 2012 New Hampshire Professional Theatre Association Auditions and Job Fair, which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 25. It is the fifth year of the program, which allows students and adult residents who are interested in working in the state's theater industry to come together with insiders. The first year was only for on-stage talent but it quickly expanded to technical staffers as well as faculty — people who teach theater during the school year and may want to work in the summer. In fact, almost two thirds of theater jobs are behind the scenes, like working in marketing, administrative or box office capacities. There are plenty of jobs too. In 2010, 800 people worked in the state's theater industry, according to the Department of Cultural

Resources. There are many great professional theaters throughout New Hampshire, including the Winnepesaukee Playhouse, Peterborough Players, and the New London Barn Playhouse. Van McLeod, commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Cultural Resources, placed New Hampshire's theater talent on par with New York, Boston and London. It costs \$20 to register for the Fair (\$15 for students). Visit oz.plymouth.edu/~mkizer/NHPTA/.

• **Get lost in the Majestic:** Their New Year's Eve performance of *Murderous Crossing* was sold out quickly, so it is not too early to think about the Majestic Theatre's dinner shows. Their first of the season will be Neil Simon's classic *Lost In Yonkers*, performed on Friday, Jan. 27, and Saturday, Jan. 28, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Jan. 29, at 2 p.m. at the Chateau Function Facility, 201 Hanover St., Manchester. In the play, two young sons are dropped off at their grandmother's doorstep in Yonkers. Living there, they must contend with their tough grand-

ma, their mentally challenged aunt Bella, and Louie, a small-time crook, according to production notes. The Broadway production starred Irene Worth, Mercedes Ruehl and Kevin Spacey. Dinner seatings cost \$35 for Friday and Saturday, \$32 for Sunday. There are also dessert seatings beginning at 8:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 2:30 on Sunday, that cost \$22. Call 669-7469 or visit www.majestictheatre.net.

• **Go to Broadway:** The Palace Theatre is offering the chance to witness Broadway in person. The theater will be hosting a group trip to New York City leaving from the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Friday, Jan. 13, at 8:30 a.m. The bus will arrive in New York City, where visitors will spend two nights (double occupancy) at the Belvedere Hotel and get a ticket to see *Sister Act*. The bus will leave the hotel on Sunday, Jan. 15, at 6 p.m. The trip costs \$525 per person. Call Tina Kelly at 668-5588 or e-mail tinakelly@palacetheatre.org.

— Adam Coughlin

28, and Sun., Jan. 29, at 2 p.m. at 14 Court St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$15 (\$12 for seniors and students). Call 320-2530 or visit nashua-theatreguild.org.

• **LOST IN YONKERS** Dinner theater will be held Jan. 27-Jan. 29 at the Chateau Function Facility, 201 Hanover St., Manchester. Visit majestictheatre.net or call 669-7469.

• **ONE-ACT PLAYWRITING FESTIVAL** will be performed on Fri., Jan. 27, and Sat., Jan. 28, at 7:30 p.m. at the Amato Theatre, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Visit svbgc.org or call 465-3456.

• **THE LITTLE FARM SHOW** NACL Theatre will perform Jan. 27-Jan.29 at Pontine's West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 4 and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Tickets cost \$24. Visit pontine.org or call 436-6660.

• **ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL** will be held on Thurs., Feb. 2, Fri., Feb. 3, and Sat., Feb. 4, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dana Center, 100 Saint Anselm Dr., Manchester. Tickets cost \$6-\$8. Call 641-7700 or visit anselm.edu/dana.

• **RIGOLETTO** will be performed on Mon., Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. at the Paul Creative Arts Center's Johnson Theatre at UNH-Durham. Visit unh.edu/celebrity or call 862-2290.

Auditions/open calls

• **BUG** Auditions will be held on Sat., Jan. 7, 2-4 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua and Sun., Jan. 8, 2:30-5 p.m. at Dance Concepts Studio, 122 Bridge St., #3B, Pelham. Auditions will involve cold readings from script. Dramatic monologues are encouraged but please keep under 5 minutes. Visit gltn.org.

• **SKIN DEEP** Auditions will be held on Tues., Jan. 10, and Wed., Jan. 11, 7-9 p.m. in the upstairs of the Old Town Hall, across from 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford. Rehearsals will be Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. The show is in March. Visit bedfordoffbroadway.com.

• **ANNE OF GREEN GABLES, THE MUSICAL** The audition will be held Sat., Jan. 28, and Sun., Jan. 29, 1-4 p.m. at the Amato Theatre, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Visit svbgc.org or call 465-3456.

ART LISTINGS

Art events

• **FIRST THURSDAYS** The Currier Museum of Art is open late from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. first Thursday of each month with special programs including live music, lectures and film, at 150 Ash St., Manchester. Call 669-6144 ext. 108 or see currier.org for tickets.

Gallery openings

• **50 UNDER 50** Multi-artist exhibit on

display through Jan. 29 at the Loading Dock Gallery at Western Avenue Studios, 122 Western Ave., Lowell, Mass. There will be an artist reception on Fri., Jan. 6, 6-9 p.m. Visit theloadingdockgallery.com or call 978-349-8069.

• **AN ECLECTIC FOCUS** Work of Ken Harvey will be on display in January and February at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Gallery hours are Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. There will be an artist reception on Sat., Jan. 7, 3-5 p.m. Call 589-4610.

• **AS I SEE IT** Work of Art Ferrier will be on display through Feb. 4 at the Lawrence Library Art Gallery, 15 Main St., Pepperell, Mass. There will be an opening reception on Sat., Jan. 7, noon-2 p.m. Call 978-433-0330 or visit lawrencelibrary.org.

• **OCULAR RHYTHM: TWO VIEWS** Works of Maureen Ahern and Paul Cooper will be on display Jan. 9 through Feb. 10 at the Lyceum Gallery at the Derryfield School, 2108 River Road, Manchester. There will be a closing reception on Friday, Feb. 10, 5:30-7 p.m. Visit derryfield.org.

• **WHAT IS HOME?** Multi-artist exhibit on display Jan. 11 through March 4 at Gallery 6 in the Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover. Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Visit childrensmuseum.org.

• **DEBRA LaPOINTE & JANICE DONNELLY** Works will be on display through January at the Sage Gallery... A Fine Art and Metaphysical Meeting Place, 70 Lowell St., Manchester. There will be an artist reception on Fri., Jan. 13, 5-9 p.m. Visit sagegallery.net or call 626-7243.

• **BARBARA HERBSTER** January artist of the month at Exeter Fine Crafts, 61 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. There will be a reception on Sat., Jan. 14, noon-3 p.m. Call 778-8282.

• **65th ANNUAL MEMBERS EXHIBITION** will be held Jan. 13 through Feb. 27 at the Sharon Arts Center Downtown Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. There will be an opening reception on Fri., Jan. 13, 5-7 p.m. Admission is free. Call 924-7676 or visit sharonarts.org.

• **2012 MINUMENTAL** will be held Jan. 20 through Feb. 20 at the New Hampshire Institute of Art, 148 Concord St., Manchester. There will be an opening reception on Wed., Jan. 25, noon-1 p.m. Call 836-2573.

• **THE SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS**

On stage



Collaborating in Peterborough

In Moscow in 1938, Mikhail Bulgakov, who lives amongst dissidents and is stalked by secret police, is commissioned to write a play about Stalin to celebrate the dictator's 60th birthday. Thus the action begins in John Hodge's new play, *Collaborators*, which will be performed by London's National Theatre and broadcast live to the screen of the Peterborough Players, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. The show will be held on Saturday, Jan. 14, at 1 p.m. Alex Jennings plays Bulgakov and Simon Russell Beale, Stalin. Tickets cost \$25 (\$20 for students). Call 924-7585 or visit peterborough-players.org. Alex Jennings as Mikhail Bulgakov. Johan Person photo.

OF NH will be open to the public Jan. 23 through Feb. 4 at the Stockbridge Theatre, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Call 437-5200 ext. 5112.

• **HEAVY METAL** Work of Bev Belanger and Pat LaBrecque will be on display through Jan. 28 at East Colony Fine Art, 55 South Commercial St., Manchester. There will be an opening reception on Sat., Jan. 14, 5-8 p.m. Visit eastcolony.com or call 621-7400.

• **LOVE, LUST AND DESIRE** Multi-artist exhibit on display Jan. 31 through Feb. 17 at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. There will be an opening reception on Fri., Feb. 3, 5-7 p.m. Call 225-2515 or visit mcgowanfineart.com.

• **A NEW VISION:** Modernist Photography will be on display Feb. 4 through May 13 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Gallery hours are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday-Friday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (10 a.m.-noon, admission is free). Admission costs \$10 (\$9 for seniors; \$8 for students; free for kids 18 and under. Visit currier.org or call 669-6144.

In the galleries

• **ABOUT FACE:** New Paintings by Kendra O'Donnell will be on display through April 27 at the Robert M. Larsen Gallery at Sulloway & Hollis, 29 School St., Concord. Call 225-2515.

• **BOB GRUEN** Rock & Roll photography will be on display through February at Wyatt Art Studios, 87 North Main St., Rochester. Gallery hours are Monday-Friday, 4-7 p.m. and Saturdays, noon-7 p.m. Visit wyattartstudios.com or call 207-200-1925.

• **BACKSTAGE PASS:** Rock & Roll Photography. Exhibit will be on display through Jan. 15 at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

• **COLLAGE** Multi-artist exhibition on display through Jan. 7 at the Sharon Arts Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 924-7676 or visit sharonarts.org.

• **DONNA GERTLER** will be the artist of the month for January at the Re/Max Properties, 2 Ash St., Hollis. E-mail Pat at PHurd1503@aol.com.

• **EARLY WINTER '11 EXHIBITION AT 100 MARKET** Multi-artist exhibition will be held through Jan. 13 at The Gallery at 100 Market, 100 Market St., Portsmouth. Call 436-2818.

• **FRANK M. INGALLS** New permanent photography exhibit at the Florence Speare Museum, 5 Abbott St., Nashua. Call 883-0015.

• **FULL CIRCLE:** Dahlov Ipcar's Circle Paintings, with a Round of Marguerite and William Zorach and Selected Works from the Boston Sculptors Gallery will be on display through September at the Paul Creative Arts Center at the University of New Hampshire, Durham. Gallery hours are: Monday-Wednesday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m. and weekends, 1-5 p.m. Call 862-3712 or visit unh.edu/moa.

• **GREECE:** Three Emerging Artist's Viewpoints will be held through Jan. 15 at the New Hampshire Institute of Art, 148 Concord St., Manchester. Call 836-2573.

• **HOLIDAY MINIATURES EXHIBIT** will be held through Jan. 13 at the Sharon Arts Downtown Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 924-7676 or

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THEATER

See that girl

How the Cap Center picked a blockbuster

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com



Mamma Mia! Courtesy photo.

Two weeks before the Broadway national tour of *Mamma Mia!* would arrive at Concord's Capitol Center for the Arts, the show was sold out. This reveals two things: the Cap Center is able to draw the best of the best, and, when it does, New Hampshire is ready.

As the largest presenting house in New Hampshire, the Capitol Center brings two Broadway tours to Concord each year, according to Owen DeFrancesco, the Center's marketing manager. This discussion begins almost a year in advance. DeFrancesco said for some concerts the Center may be able to grab some pick-up dates a month or two in advance but big theatrical productions like to have all their ducks in a row before heading out on the road.

With such a quick sell-out, the people of New Hampshire have spoken loudly: they want to see this show. But do they want to see more Broadway or do they want to see specific shows? DeFrancesco is inclined to believe the interest is for specific shows —there are Broadway shows and then there is *Mamma Mia!* In a follow-up e-mail he said there wasn't as much of a rush to buy tickets for previous Broadway shows like *In the Heights* and *Spring Awakening*. So don't expect the popularity of *Mamma Mia!* to inspire the Capitol Center to start requesting more and more Broadway shows.

"We will continue this tradition of two shows a season in the future," DeFrancesco wrote. "In part, we are limited to the number of tours on the road and their tour routes."

Why, then, did *Mamma Mia!* sell out so quickly?

"Most people on the street know of *Mamma Mia!*, and if they don't know the musical they know of the movie," DeFrancesco said. "That wide appeal is always nice."

He said the performances, which will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 10, and Wednesday, Jan. 11, right after the holiday season, come at the perfect time.

"It's a fun, feel-good musical to go out and see with your wife or family," DeFrancesco said over the phone. "There are no heavy artistic themes. In fact, since everyone knows

the music, the show gets pretty raucous. It borders on a rock concert."

That music is based on the songs of ABBA, which DeFrancesco called an iconic music group. He said most people have heard ABBA's songs and this show allows people to hear them in a different way.

"Like The Who's *Tommy*, this is pop music on stage that creates an emotional experience around music," DeFrancesco said.

According to the *Mamma Mia!* website, www.mamma-mia.com, more than 50 million people worldwide have seen this story of a young woman's quest to find her father. The musical is set in Greece, at the wedding of Sophie and Sky. Sophie does not know who her father is but she wants him to walk her down the aisle and so she invites all three potential candidates, Sam, Bill and Harry. She does this without her mother, Donna, knowing.

Many fans saw the 2008 movie starring Meryl Streep as Donna and Amanda Seyfried as Sophie, as well as an A list ensemble cast. But DeFrancesco said seeing it live is a different experience, and that is why the show has been so popular.

So for those lucky enough to get tickets: enjoy. And those who weren't can take solace in the fact that two more Broadway shows will be coming next year and perhaps one of the many talented local theater companies will be putting on *Mamma Mia!* in the years to come.

Mamma Mia!

When: Tuesday, Jan. 10, and Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, ccanh.com, 225-1111

Tickets: sold out

visit sharonarts.org.

• **ILLUSTRATOR EXHIBIT** Work by several children's book illustrators is on display at the Brush Gallery and Artists Studio, 256 Market St., Lowell, Mass. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m. and Sunday, noon-4 p.m. Visit thebrush.org or call 978-459-7819.

• **KIMBERLY PECK** work will be on display through Jan. 31 at the New Hampshire Antique Co-op, 323 Elm St., Rte. 101A, Milford. Gallery open daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 673-8499 or visit nhantiquecoop.com.

• **MANCHESTER ARTS** website presented by the city arts commission, manchester-arts.org.

• **NANCY HUBBE** January artist at the Seacoast Artist Association gallery, 225 Water St., Exeter. Gallery hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 778-8856 or visit

seacoastartist.org.

• **NEIL WETHERBEE** Photographs will be on display through early January at the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst. Hours are Monday-Thursday, 9:30 a.m.-8:30 p.m., Friday-Saturday, 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Visit amherst.lib.nh.us or call 673-2288.

• **OPEN STUDIO NIGHTS** third Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. at Verdigris Artisans, 88 N. Main St., Suite 205, Concord, verdigrisartisans.com.

• **OPPOSITES ATTRACT** Multi-artist exhibit will be on display through the summer at the Patricia Ladd Carega Gallery, 69 Maple St., Center Sandwich. Gallery hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, noon-5 p.m. Call 284-7728 or visit patricialaddcarega.com.

• **PASTELS** by Nashua artist Pauline Dailey will be on display in the Image

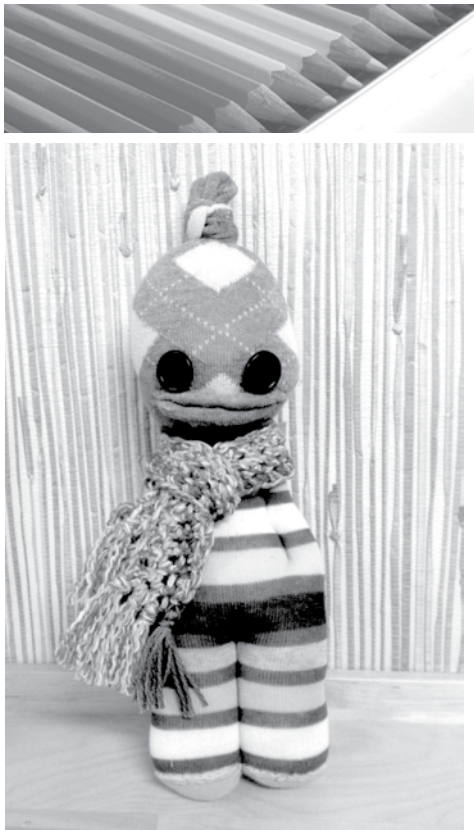
Gallery at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, free and open to the public. Call 589-4610.

• **PRECIOUS** Multi-artist holiday exhibit through Jan. 15 at Soo Rye Art Gallery, 11 Sagamore Road, Rye. Call 319-1578 or visit soorye.com.

• **RALPH STONE JACOBS** Work will be on display through Jan. 13 at McGowan Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord. Call 225-2515 or visit mcgowanfineart.com.

• **SAM PAOLINI** Work will be on display through March at the Steez Gallery, 85 W Pearl St., Nashua. Visit thesteezgallery.com.

• **TRANSFORMATION** Photographic work of David MacEachran and Alicia Bergeron on display at Silver Light Gallery, 28 Main St., Suite 2, Goffstown. Visit silverhillsstudio.com or call 497-4674.



Work available at "50 under 50." Courtesy photo.

• **Honoring the best:** Once again the best young visual artists in the state will be honored at Pinkerton Academy in the 13th Annual Scholastic Art Awards Exhibition. While it is the 13th year in the state, the Scholastic Art Awards began 89 years ago when Maurice Robinson, founder of Scholastic Inc., established the awards. Since then they have grown, granting more than \$1 million in scholarships and prize money and helping launch the careers of such illustrious winners as Andy Warhol, Paul Newman and Truman Capote. Students from every state submit work in 16 visual art categories to be juried and exhibited. In New Hampshire that will be at Pinkerton Academy. The adjudication will be held Saturday, Jan. 14, and Sunday, Jan. 15, and the list of award recipients will be available shortly after that. Once the winners are announced, the works will be open to the public Monday, Jan. 23, through Saturday, Feb. 4. There will be a closing cer-

LOCAL COLOR

emony and reception on Saturday, Feb. 4, beginning at 11 a.m. Visit artandwriting.org.

• **Members on display:** The Sharon Arts Center Downtown Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, will host its 65th Annual Members Exhibition beginning Friday, Jan. 13, through Monday, Feb. 27. The exhibit, which is open to Sharon Arts members, students, staff and faculty, will showcase the work of the Monadnock region. Any interested artists, fitting the previous description, should call 924-7676, as delivery dates for submission are Saturday, Jan. 7, and Sunday, Jan. 8, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. There will be an opening reception on Friday, Jan. 13, from 5 to 7 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Visit sharonarts.org.

• **50 under 50:** The Loading Dock Gallery at Western Avenue Studios, 122 Western Ave., Lowell, Mass., will be hosting an exhibit that showcases the works of the gallery's 50 members that cost less than \$50. The exhibition will be held through Sunday, Jan. 29, and there will be an artist reception on Friday, Jan. 6, from 6 to 9 p.m. Oils, photographs, watercolors, sculpture, fiber art, acrylics, glass, jewelry and mixed media will all be on display. Gallery hours are Wednesday through Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Call 978-349-8069 or visit theloadingdockgallery.com.

• **Getting heavy:** Bev Belanger and Pat LaBrecque will be the January featured artists of the month at East Colony Fine Art located in Langer Place, 55 South Commercial St., Manchester. Belanger has lived in the Granite State her entire life and is primarily self-taught when it comes to art. She paints what speaks to her, and that is a wide range of subjects. LaBrecque is also a New Hampshire native; she acquired a love of nature from her mother and grandfather, according to her website, patlabrecque.com. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, Jan. 14, from 5 to 8 p.m. — *Adam Coughlin*

Open calls

• **CALL FOR ART** Theme is "Sweet & Sentimental Thoughtful Delights." Deadline is Mon., Jan. 9, at noon at Gallery at 100 Market St., Portsmouth. E-mail maskmakernh@gmail.com.
• **CALL FOR ART** for monthly displays in the rotunda of the Wilton Public & Gregg Free Library. Contact library director Carol Roberts at carolrose56@hotmail.com or 654-2581.
• **CALL FOR ART** Exhibit for two months at Art on the Wall at City Hall Gallery, 1 City Hall Plaza, Manchester, for \$300. Contact Georgie Reagan, Mayor's Assistant for the Arts, 624-6500 to apply.

Classes/workshops/demonstrations

• **THE ART OF ICON PAINTING** Workshop will be held Fridays, Jan. 20, Jan. 27, Feb. 3 and Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the New England Language Center, 16 Hillside Dr., Rochester. Call 332-2255 or e-mail marina@anylanguage.org.
• **MARKETING 101** will be held on Thursdays, Feb. 9, Feb. 16, and Feb. 23, 6:30-9 p.m. at SOPHA, 15 Merrill St., Manchester. Class costs \$169.

In a gallery near you



Two views at Derryfield

The works of artists Maureen Ahern and Paul Cooper will be on display Monday, Jan. 9, through Friday, Feb. 10, at the Derryfield School's Lyceum Gallery, 2108 River Road, Manchester. The show is titled "Ocular Rhythm: Two Views." Ahern, who is the director of the Thorne-Sagendorph Art Gallery at Keene State College, works with flat surfaces with color and CD

shards. Cooper, who often shows his work in Texas, Iowa, Maine and Massachusetts, transforms pieces of wood into forms. There will be a closing reception on Friday, Feb. 10, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Visit www.derryfield.org. Work of Paul Cooper. Courtesy photo.

Visit thesopha.com or call 206-8372.
• **CAROL WHALEN ART STUDIO** Ongoing youth and adult classes in drawing, painting, and mixed media at Hampton Falls Common, 97 Lafayette Road, #9, Hampton Falls. Visit carolwhalenstudio.com or call 601-6900.

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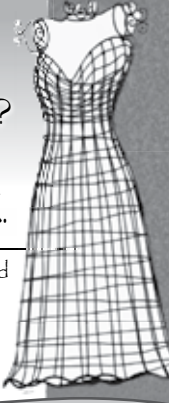
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- **CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS** at Sharon Arts Center, 457 Route 123, Sharon, sharonarts.org, 924-2787.
- **CLASSES** for adult, teens, and children at White Birch Fine Art, LLC, 8 Mohawk Drive, Londonderry, 434-0399, WhiteBirchFineArt.com.
- **CITY ARTS NASHUA** cityartsnashua.org, a central place to buy tickets to the Nashua Symphony and Chamber Orchestra concerts, coffeehouse performances, theater productions, art fundraising events and more. Includes info on non-ticketed events including gallery openings, art exhibits, classes, films, poetry readings, and lectures, 589-3070.
- **FALL ART CLASSES** Available at Pottery@PhoebesBarn, 16 North Main St., Mont Vernon. Call 673-3410, e-mail pottery@phoebesbarn.com or visit phoebesbarn.com.
- **GLASS LAMPWORKING CLASSES** and studio use at Aaron Slater Glass, 21 W. Auburn St., Manchester, aaronslaterglass.com, 380-3004
- **GOFFSTOWN AREA ARTISTS** breakfast club, Mondays, 8 a.m. at Travers Village Eatery, 13 Main St., Goffstown.
- **IKEBANA** Learn the art of Ikebana (Japanese flower arrangement) at Ikebana Flower, 95 W. Pearl St., Nashua. Two-hour classes are held weekly Wed., Thurs. and Fri. Call 595-8877.
- **MONTHLY MEETINGS** Visual and performing artists are invited to attend the Hollis Arts Society monthly meetings. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Lawrence Barn, 29 Depot Road, Hollis. Contact Pat Hurd, president, at 882-1503.
- **OIL PAINTING CLASS** Tuesdays 6:30-9:30 p.m., \$140 for 8 weeks, at East Colony Fine Art, 5 South Commercial St., Manchester, eastcolony.com. Contact Lawrence Donovan at 669-6994.
- **PHOTOGRAPHY WORKSHOPS** with Dan Splaine at Test of Time Photography studio in the Picker Building, 99 Factory St. Extension, Nashua, 579-0777, testoftimephoto.com.
- **POTTERY CLASSES** at Out on a Limb Pottery Studio, 99 Factory St. Ext., Nashua. All skill levels. Wheel throwing and handbuilding, days, evenings and weekends available. Call Paula at 978-597-5464 or e-mail mpash123@comcast.net.
- **POTTERY CLASSES** Learn to make pottery on the potters' wheel or learn hand-building techniques at Warm Stone Studio (99 Factory St., Nashua, warmstonestudio.com, 595-9500).
- **SMALL GROUP AFTER SCHOOL CLASSES** will be held on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 4 and 5:15 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:45 and 11 a.m. at Becks Arts Express Studio, 5 Pine St., Extension, Nashua. Call 889-1670 or e-mail admin@artsexpressnh.com.
- **ZENTANGLE WORKSHOP** with Diane Ryan. Classes at E.W. Poore Art Studio, 531 Front St., Manchester. Call 622-3802.
- **ZENTANGLE CLASSES** will be held Tuesday afternoons or evenings for all ages and skill levels at E.W. Poore Art Studio, 531 Front St., Manchester. Call 622-3802.

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

- **BACH WITH VERSE - AFGHANISTAN PROJECT** Special music presentation will be held on Fri., Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. at the Mari-

In a gallery near you



Home in Dover

The Children's Museum of New Hampshire, 6 Washington St., Dover, asked the question: What is home? A bunch of artists gave their answers. These are on display Tuesday, Jan. 10, through Sunday, March 4, at the museum in an exhibit called, "What Is Home?" Artists participating include Ann Cattall, Cori Caputo, Arthur Copeland, Mary Rose Cullens, Dean Diggins, Marina Forbes, Nora Happny, Sarah Haskell, Nina Herlihy, Ethel Hills, Theresa LaBreque, Magi Leland, K. Lee Mock, Fleur Palau, ShawnPelech, Hannah Phelps, Eva Powers, Sue Pretty, Doug Prince, Runjuan, Susan Savory, Montana Sky, Ron St. Jean and Andrea Williams. Gallery hours are Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. There is no admission fee to visit the gallery only. Visit www.childrens-museum.org. "Meeting at Home" by Fleur Palau. Courtesy photo.

posa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 924-4555.

• **CAROL'S OF THE EPIPHANY SEASON** will be performed on Sun., Jan. 8, at 4:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 21 Centre St., Concord. Free admission. Call 424-4743.

• **OPEN SING** Concord Chorale will host on Mon., Jan. 9, at 7:15 p.m. at the Concord Community Music School, 23 Wall St., Concord. Visit concordchorale.org.

• **FACULTY CONCERT** will be performed on Sat., Jan. 14, at 2 p.m. at the Johnson Theatre at UNH-Durham. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 862-2404 or visit unh.edu/music.

• **A FAR CRY ORCHESTRA** will perform on Sun., Jan. 15, at 2 p.m. at the Kingswood Arts Center, 21 McManus Road, Wolfeboro. Tickets cost \$25. Call 569-2151 or visit wfriendsofmusic.org.

• **HIGH STRUNG** Nashua Symphony will be perform on Sat., Jan. 28, at 8 p.m. at the Keefe Memorial Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$12-\$48. Call 595-9156 or visit nashuasymphony.org.

• **THE CHORAL GALA** will be performed on Sat., Jan. 28, at 7 p.m. at the Johnson Theatre at UNH-Durham. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 862-2404 or visit unh.edu/music.

• **FANFARE 2012** Nashua Symphony will perform on Fri., Feb. 10, at 6 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua. Tickets cost \$75. Call 595-9156 or visit nashuasymphony.org.

• **STRAFFORD WIND SYMPHONY** will perform on Fri., Feb. 17, at 7 p.m. at the Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. Tickets cost \$12 (\$7 for children under 12). Call 335-1992.

• **DMITRY KOUZOV** Cellist will perform on Feb. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Paul Creative Arts Center's Johnson Theatre at UNH-Durham. Visit unh.edu/celebrity or call 862-2290.

• **NASHUA SYMPHONY STRING QUARTET** Performance will be held on Thurs., Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. at the Southern New Hampshire University Dining Center Banquet Hall, 2500 North River Road, Manchester. The concert is free and open to the public. Visit snhu.edu/music.

• **CORDIS QUARTET** will be performed Fri., March 3, at 7 p.m. at the

Paul Creative Arts Center's Johnson Theatre at UNH-Durham. Visit unh.edu/celebrity or call 862-2290.

• **CELTIC JOURNEY** NH Philharmonic will perform on Sat., March 17, 2012, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$15 to \$50. Call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org.

• **SIMPLY GREAT** Nashua Symphony will be perform on Sat., March 17, at 8 p.m. at the Keefe Memorial Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$12-\$48. Call 595-9156 or visit nashuasymphony.org.

• **THE HEIGHT OF RUSSIAN ROMANTICISM** Concert will be performed on Sat., March 24, at 8 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. Tickets cost \$10 to \$35. Call 226-4776 or visit gsso.org.

• **TAKACS QUARTET** will be performed on Wed., April 11, at 7 p.m. at the Paul Creative Arts Center's Johnson Theatre at UNH-Durham. Visit unh.edu/celebrity or call 862-2290.

• **25th ANNIVERSARY CONCERT** The Saint Anselm College Choir will perform on Sat., April 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dana Center, 100 Saint Anselm Dr., Manchester. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 641-7700 or visit anselm.edu/abbey/choir.

• **NATION BUILDING** Nashua Symphony will be perform on Sat., April 14, at 8 p.m. at the Keefe Memorial Auditorium, 117 Elm St., Nashua. Tickets cost \$12-\$48. Call 595-9156 or visit nashuasymphony.org.

• **SNHU COMMUNITY BAND** Performance will be held on Mon., April 16, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Visit snhu.edu/music.

• **BALA BASS** Performance will be held on Thurs., April 19, at 7 p.m. at the Southern New Hampshire University Dining Center Banquet Hall, 2500 North River Road, Manchester. The concert is free and open to the public. Visit snhu.edu/music.

• **GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA** will perform on Sat., April 21, at 7:30 p.m. at the Dana Center, 100 Saint Anselm Dr., Manchester. Tickets cost \$6-\$32.50. Call 641-7700 or visit anselm.edu/dana.

• **FIREBIRD** NH Philharmonic will perform on Sat., April 28, 2012, at 7 p.m. at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets cost \$15 to \$50. Call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org.

Job Corps picking up slack

Training program aims to ease path to employment

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

There is little room in the workforce for people without much education or vocational training, but for those who cannot afford college, that can mean a difficult cycle of work, loans and financial aid. And for those who didn't measure up in high school, the current economy can be even more trying.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Job Corps program attempts to lighten the weight on these kids' shoulders.

The Job Corps program is a free education and training program that helps young people "learn a career, earn a high school diploma or GED, and find and keep a good job," according to its website, www.jobcorps.gov. The program is available for people ages 16 to 24 who qualify as low-income, require public assistance or have verifiable disabilities.

It's a big opportunity for kids who struggled in high school or couldn't afford higher education or training, said Don Flood, a New Hampshire Job Corps admissions counselor. Flood estimated that 300 New Hampshire students per year go through the program.

It's like a "more-strict college," said Kristen Dube, an admissions counselor for Job Corps applicants in Manchester. Students accepted into the program take classes on a campus and stay in dorms; Job Corps also requires that students do chores, wear a uniform and go to class. While some students enjoy the structure, others find it challenging, Dube said.

The students stay in housing in one of the nine Job Corps locations in Massachusetts, Maine, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Maine. Each location provides different opportunities. Among the various programs there's training in carpentry, health occupations, office assistance, welding, urban forestry, auto technology, facilities maintenance, painting, communications, pharmacy technician, electrical and more. A full list can be found at www.jobcorps.gov.

While there is no Job Corps campus in New Hampshire, there is a tentative plan to establish

a Job Corps campus in Manchester, according to a story published in the Union Leader in August. Although there are no concrete plans, Flood said that if and when Manchester Job Corps is established it would likely offer programs in homeland security, business and the culinary arts. Students, however, are encouraged to apply to whichever one of the campuses best matches their interests and where the Admissions Counselors Dube and Flood think they would fit best.

Dube noticed that this year there have been older students seeking out Job Corps. She attributes this partly to the raising of the high school dropout age to 18; however, it may also be due to the current economy.

"Lots of the older students are being laid off, and they're looking to gain some practical job skills," Dube said.

And there is more to Job Corps than vocation training or education, Dube said.

"It's not only teaching you skills to be an auto mechanic, but we're also teaching you employability skills — social skills, budgeting, how to interview, the stuff you need that nobody sits down and teaches you when you go to college," Dube said. "It's not just a high school diploma program, not just a place to get your driver's ed, not just a place to learn a vocation; it's all-inclusive."

Nelson Mercado, owner of New Era Barber shop in Nashua, got his start with Job Corps. Mercado had always cut hair, even before he took on Job Corps, however, it was through the business program in Bangor, Maine, that he gained the initiative and knowledge in learning how to put the pieces together. He became the first in his family to earn a high school diploma.

"I knew I had to further school in order to do well, and they led me in the right direction. All my friends were going to college after high school, and I wanted to do something with myself," Mercado said. "It's about getting your life in focus."

Yashira Cruz of Manchester was enrolled in Job Corps for one year to become a Certified Nursing Assistant. She took a year off from the Job Corps program after high school, but she



Yarisha Cruz of Manchester has found success through Job Corps. Courtesy photo.

decided to come back into the program to finish her advanced training. Cruz said that she heard about the Job Corps program from family members who took part in it.

"I like it a lot — it's a great opportunity to learn and meet new people," she said. In addition to the vocation training, Cruz said that Job Corps has helped her a great deal through her career preparation class, which has aided in her learning to write résumés and cover letters, fill out applications, and more.

"What I notice most when I do see the kids who go through the program is that they get a sense of confidence," Dube said. "Some of these kids come from real unfortunate backgrounds in which they were told that they were stupid, that they can't do something, and many of them came to believe that before they took on Job Corps," Dube said.

To learn more, call Kristen Dube at 647-6844 or Don Flood at 627-2891. Information sessions are held every Tuesday at 50 Bridge St. (third floor) in Manchester at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

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From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

CHILDREN & TEENS

Libraries

- **Amherst Town Library**
14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us
- **Bedford Library**
3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-3023, bedford.lib.nh.us
- **Concord Public Library**
45 Green St, Concord, 225-8670, onconcord.com
- **Hollis Social Library**
2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us
- **Hooksett Public Library**
1701 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksett.lib.nh.us
- **Manchester City Library**
405 Pine St., 624-6550;
76 N. Main St., 624-6560;
manchester.lib.nh.us
- **Nashua Public Library**
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4631, nashualibrary.org
- **Pollard Memorial Library**
401 Merrimack St., in Lowell,

Mass, 978-970-4120, pollardml.org
• **Rodgers Memorial Library**
194 Derry Road, Hudson, rodderslibrary.org
• **Wadleigh Memorial Library**
49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us

Museums

- **The Children's Museum of NH**
6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org
- **Mariposa Museum**
26 Main St., Peterborough, 924-4555, mariposamuseum.org

Nature

- **Amoskeag Fishways**
6 Fletcher St., Manchester, 626-FISH, amoskeagfishways.org
- **Beaver Brook Association**
117 Ridge Road, Hollis, 465-7787, beaverbrook.org
- **Charmingfare Farm**

Route 27, Candia, 483-5623, visithethefarm.com
• **Daniel Webster Council of Boy Scouts**
571 Holt Ave., Manchester, 625-6431, nhscouting.org
• **Educational Farm at Joppa Hill**
174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford, 472-4724, theeducationalfarm.org
• **Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains**
One Commerce Drive, Bedford, 627-4158, girlscoutsgwm.org
• **Massabesic Audubon Center**
26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045, nhaudubon.org
• **McLane Audubon Center**
3 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, nhaudubon.org

Science

- **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center**
2 Institute Drive, Concord, 271-STAR, starhop.com

• **RoboTech Center**
110 DW Highway, Nashua, 888-6102, robotechcenter.com
• **Seacoast Science Center**
570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, seacoastsciencecenter.org
• **SEE Science Center**
200 Bedford St., Manchester, 669-0400, see-sciencecenter.org

Other

- **Barnes & Noble**
1741 S. Willow St., Manchester, 668-5557; 235 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-5961
- **Borders Books**
281 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-9300;
76 Fort Eddy Road, Concord, 224-1255
- **Concord Boys & Girls Club**
55 Bradley St., Concord, 224-1061, concordkids.org
- **Concord Family YMCA**
15 N. State St., Concord, 224-5351, concordymca.org
- **Franco-American Centre**

52 Concord St., Manchester, 669-4045, francoamericancentrenh.com

- **Greater Manchester Family YMCA**
30 Mechanic St., Manchester, 623-3558, gmfmymca.org
- **Greater Nashua YMCA**
17 Prospect St., Nashua, 882-2011; 5 Henry Clay Drive, Merrimack, 881-7778; nmymca.org
- **Green Street Community Center**
39 Green St., Concord, 225-8699, onconcord.com/recreation
- **Manchester Boys & Girls Club**
55 Union St., Manchester, 625-5031, mbgcnh.org
- **Nashua Boys & Girls Club**
47 Grand Ave., Nashua, 883-0523, bgcn.com
- **Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club**
56 Mount Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002, svbgc.org
- **Toadstool Bookshop**
586 Nashua St., Milford, 673-1734; 12 Depot Square, Peterborough, 924-3543; toadbooks.com
- **Verizon Wireless Arena**
555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, verizonwirelessarena.com
- **YWCA Manchester**
72 Concord St., Manchester, 625-5785

Events

- **TRAVEL CLUB** at the Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester, meets every month to take a “journey” to a different country. On Tues., Jan 24, visit Canada, and on Tues., Feb 28, visit China. For grades K-5. Registration recommended. Call 624-6550, ext. 328.
- **CHILDREN’S FREE FAMILY NIGHT** at the Children’s Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington Street, Dover, 742-2--2002, www.childrens-museum.org) on Fri., Jan. 6, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. This special evening will be open to families free of charge. Activities related to health and fitness are planned for event.
- **TEEN GAMING NIGHT** Wii Wednesday at the Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford) will take place 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Wed., Jan 11, in the Keyes meeting room. Bring DS, PSP, controllers or games (rated T or lower) to play. Snacks provided.
- **BAG BOOK SALE** on Sat., Jan 28, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Manchester Library (405 Pine St., Manchester). One of the best bargains of the year, buy books for children and young adults, VHS tapes, DVD’s, audiobooks, etc. for just \$5 per bag. Contact Eileen A. Reddy at ereddy@manchesternh.gov or call her at 624-6550 ext. 320.
- **ROCKETEERS** at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discover Center (2 Institute Drive, Concord) can make their own 12” rocket under the guidance of firefighter Phil Chouinard! Event takes place Sat., Jan. 28, from 9 a.m. to noon. Participation in this workshop can be applied towards a Boy Scout of America Space Exploration Merit Badge. For ages 8 to adult, \$25 per person. Call 271-7827, ext. 110.
- **MID-WINTER BOOK SALE** will take place at the Merrimack Public Library (470 Daniel Webster Highway Merrimack) on Sat., Jan. 28, from 9 a to 3 p.m., and on Sun., Jan. 29, from 1 to 3 p.m. The library is currently seeking donations for children’s books, current fiction, non-fiction, audio tapes, compact discs and DVD’s. Donations to be accepted through Thus., Jan. 26. Call 424-5021 or visit www.merrimack.lib.nh.us.

- **VALENTINE’S FUN** on Mon., Feb. 13, at 10 a.m., in the Winchell Room at the Manchester Public Library (405 Pine St., Manchester). Listen to stories, play games, and make cute Valentine’s crafts. For ages 2-5. Call 624-6550, ext. 335.
- **IRON CHEF NO-BAKE DESERT BATTLE** will take place at the Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, on Tues., Feb 14, at 4 p.m. Each competitor has 30 minutes to whip up a concoction with a micro-wave, blender and secret ingredient. For ages 11 to 17. Register at tinyurl.com/nplteen. Call 589-4610.
- **SUPER SMASH BROS: BRAWL** on Tues., Feb. 28, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., in the Winchell Room in the Manchester Library (405 Pine St., Manchester). Play Wii and participate in Super Smash Bros Brawl tournament.

Homeschooling

- **EARTH CYCLES** is a homeschool series on Thus., Jan. 5, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Squam lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness), which focus on cycles observed in the natural world, including the rock cycle, water cycle, life cycle, etc. One adult must attend with children at no cost. Each additional adult pays child fee. Register by calling 968-7194 or by emailing info@nature.org. Cost is \$9/member child, or \$11/non-member child. Visit www.nhnature.org.
- **ALL ABOUT ENGINEERING** is a homeschool program brought by the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Dr., Concord, 271-7827, ext. 110) for home schooled children on Thus., Feb. 2, from 2:15 to 4:15 p.m. Each level of engineering will take a look at concept goals, design, engineering, building and evaluation. After warm-up activities, each group will have design and trial competition. Admission is \$15 per student, \$10 for each additional student from the same family.
- **GO GREEN AT AUDUBON CENTER** Homeschool and pre-school children of all ages can find educational programs at Prescott Farm Audubon Center (928 White Oaks Road, Laconia, 366-5695) on Tuesdays, 10-11 a.m. The homeschool programs are set up as six-week units designed to provide an in-depth look at a particular nature topic or theme.
- **HOMESCHOOLERS DISCUSSION GROUP** at Manchester Barnes & Noble (668-5557) the third Sunday of every month at 6:30 p.m.
- **MERRIMACK YMCA** offers homeschool tennis for children ages 7-12. Contact the Merrimack YMCA at 881-7778.
- **NASHUA YMCA** offers classes for homeschooled students including “Simple Science” and “Starting Spanish,” and sports classes for 6- to 12-year-olds.
- **ONLINE CLASSES FOR MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL** offered by The Virtual Learning Academy Charter School. The school offers history, art, entrepreneurship, marketing and technology courses. The Academy is tuition-free for students who live in NH. Out-of-state students can participate for a fee. Go to www.vlacs.org or call 778-2500.
- **PUBLIC SPEAKING** for homeschoolers ages 12-18. Contact 228-3911 or e-mail learnpublicspeaking@comcast.net to set up a class.

Language

- **FRENCH LESSONS** at the Franco-American Centre (52 Concord St., Manchester, 669-4045, www.facnh.com). After-school French is offered

for school-age children (8+). Details are available at the website. Tuition is \$250 for 8 weeks. There is a mandatory yearly student Centre membership fee of \$35. To register, call the Centre or e-mail lsutton@facnh.com.

- **HEBREW** at Etz Hayim Synagogue in Derry. Hebrew night school for ages 8-11 on Tuesday evenings. Visit etzhayim.org
- **MULTIPLE LANGUAGES** All Learners, LLC, 15 Constitution Drive, Bedford, offers French and Spanish classes. Children’s classes take place Tuesday and Wednesday mornings. Rates start at \$20 per class. Pre-registration is required. Call 986-7001 or e-mail office@all-learners.com.

Nature

- **PIZZA PARTY WITH THE PAINTED TURTLE** at the Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (6 Fletcher St., Manchester) on Fri., Jan. 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Participants will eat pizza and meet animals. Admission is \$15 per family, which includes pizza. Advanced registration required; Call 626-3474 or visit amoskeagfishways.org.
- **BIRD BANDING OPEN HOUSE** on Sat., Jan. 7, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) allows visitors to drop in anytime during the morning to learn about common birds that are winter visitors, as well as why birds are banded. No charge. Visit www.nhnature.org or call 968-7194.
- **WINTER WILD WALKS** will be held Sat., Jan 14, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sun., Jan. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m., Sat., Jan 21, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., and Sun., Jan. 29, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness). Be prepared to snowshoe. Register by calling 968-7194 or emailing info@nhnature.org. Costs \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members. Visit www.nhnature.org.
- **TRAIL WALK: SNOWSHOEING AND WINTER TREE IDENTIFICATION** on Sat., Jan. 14, from 1 to 2:20 p.m. at the Fells Fells Historic Estate and Gardens at Lake Sunapee (456 Route 103A, Newbury). Members free, nonmembers pay site admission. No registration required. Call 603-763-4789 x 3 or visit www.thefells.org.
- **WINTER BIRDING EXCURSION** at the Squam lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) on Sun., Jan. 22, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., is being held to search for the hardy bird species that spend their winters along the N.H. and Mass. seacoast. Led by Science Center Executive Director Ian MacLeod. Through the day, visit Seabrook Harbor, the Salsbury Beach State Reservation and Plum Island to search for ducks, hawks, eagles, owls and more. Register by calling 968-7194 or emailing info@nhnature.org. Admission cost \$40. Visit www.nhnature.org.
- **WINTER IS FOR THE BIRDS!** is a presentation for pre-school students brought by the Amoskeag Fishways (6 Fletcher St., Manchester) on Wed., Jan. 25, from 10 to 11 a.m. or from 1 to 2 p.m. From the cardinal to the chickadee, lots of birds stay in New Hampshire during the winter time. Admission is \$5 per family, and advanced registration with payment is required. Call 626-3474 and visit amoskeagfishways.org.
- **OUT AND ABOUT: WHEN LESS IS MORE** on Tues., Feb. 14, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Fells Fells Historic Estate and Gardens at Lake Sunapee (456 Route 103A, Newbury) will allow children to learn about how to preserve

Kiddie Pool

Family fun this weekend

Get moving

Learn about how to keep healthy at the **Free Family Fun Night** at the Children’s Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2--2002, www.childrens-museum.org) on Friday, Jan. 6, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. This special evening will be open to families free of charge. Activities related to health and fitness are planned.

Have a jolly good time at the **English Folk Dance** on Sunday, Jan. 8, from 5:30 to 7:45 p.m., at Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant St., Concord. Dave Bateman leads the dances with Bruce Cobb (fiddle) and Justine Paul (keyboard). All are welcome. Admission is \$8. Call 934-2543 or visit nhecds.org.

Critters

Don’t miss the **Pizza Party with the Painted Turtle** at the Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (6 Fletcher St., Manchester) on Friday, Jan. 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Participants will eat pizza and meet the animals. Admission is \$15 per family, which includes pizza. Advance registration is required; call 626-3474 or visit amoskeagfishways.org.

Winter is the time for birds! The **Bird Banding Open House** will take place on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 9

a.m. to noon, at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness). The open house will allow visitors to drop in anytime during the morning to learn about common birds that are winter visitors, as well as why birds are banded. No charge. Visit www.nhnature.org or call 968-7194.

And don’t forget about underwater animals. **Crafty Critters of the Coral Reef** will be featured as the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center’s (2 Institute Drive, Concord) “Super Stellar Friday” on Friday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. Hear from Perrin Chick, education director of the Seacoast Science Center in Rye, as he compares our local waters and critters to those Down Under. Learn about the animals that live in Australia’s Great Barrier Reef and how coral reefs are formed. The observatory will be open from 7 to 10 p.m., and there will be a free skywatch outside with the New Hampshire Astronomical Society, whose members will give personal telescope advice and assistance. Telescope viewing begins at 7 p.m. Call 271-7827, ext. 110.

Fun in the cold

Just because it gets dark early doesn’t mean we can’t still enjoy the outdoors! Get some exercise on a **Full**

Moon Snowshoe Hike on Saturday, Jan. 7, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Beaver Brook Nature Center (117 Ridge Road, Hollis). The program is geared toward those who can walk for up to two hours at a moderate to moderately slow pace. Dress in layers. Cost is \$10 per person, which includes snowshoes or crampons if needed. Call 465-7787 to register.

Or hit the streets for the **Freeze Your Buns** run in the five-race series that’s hosted by the Gate City Striders on Sundays, Jan. 8, Jan. 22, Feb. 5, Feb. 19 and March 5 at 9 a.m. Admission is \$5 per race for ages 19 and over, \$4 per race for ages 15-18 and \$3 per race for kids under 15. Pre-registration for the series is \$20 for those 19 and over, \$15 for those 15-18 and \$12 for those under 15. Meet at the Conway Arena. Register at 8 Riverside St. in Nashua. To register, visit www.gatecity.org.

Or get the kids on skis. The **Bill Koch Ski League** runs Fridays from Jan. 6 to Feb. 10 and promises a perfect way to introduce children ages 6 to 11 to cross-country skiing. The league is part of the New England Nordic Association. Children are required to have their own equipment. Visit www.concordnh.gov.recreation or call 225-8690.

Earth’s resources. Activities and crafts. Families invited to bring gently-used toy to donate to local charity. Member child free, nonmembers \$5, caregivers free. Advance registration required. Call 603-763-4789 x 3 or visit www.thefells.org.

- **FAMILY SNOWSHOE WALK** on Sun., Feb. 26, from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Fells Fells Historic Estate and Gardens at Lake Sunapee (456 Route 103A, Newbury) invites families for a snowshoe walk to discover what animals do to cope with winter’s snow and cold. Members free, nonmembers pay site admission. No registration required. Call 603-763-4789 x 3 or visit www.thefells.org

Teen/tween events

- **TEEN NIGHT: OBSERVING THE NIGHT SKY WITH TELESCOPES** is the “Super Stellar Friday” event on Fri., Feb. 10, at 7 p.m. at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center (2 Institute Dr., Concord, 271-7827, ext. 110). From the observatory, view Venus, Jupiter, Mars, the Andromeda Galaxy, double stars, the Orion Nebula and more. Pizza, soda and hot chocolate provided at no additional charge.
- **PLAY DATE NH** invites youth 12-18 years to learn, play and enjoy

new card, strategy and board games. Semi-professional gaming geeks will be on hand to mentor new players in classic and modern games. Come Thurs., Jan. 12, and Thurs., Feb. 9, from 4 to 8 p.m., in the Winchell Room at the Manchester Library (405 Pine St., Manchester).

- **ANIME CLUB** for ages 12-18 at the Hollis Social Library on the last Monday of every month, 2:30-4:15 p.m.
- **ANIME CLUB** for ages 12-17 at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, first Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. Discuss anime or manga series, participate in games and activities, and display your anime sketches in the teen room. Call 589-4612 or visit www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.
- **ANIME CLUB** at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester. Meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Open to teens in grades 6-12. Play cards, watch movies, discuss favorite characters, and draw. Call Kate Norton at 624-6550 ext. 335 or e-mail knorton@manchester.nh.gov for details.
- **BALLROOM DANCING** for ages 11-19 at Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., Manchester. To sign up, e-mail qnctybalm@aol.com or call 622-1500. Visit www.queencityballroomnh.com.

- **CECILIA ENSEMBLE** high school age section of the Peterborough Children’s Choir is open to girls grades 9-12 who can meet for practice Mondays 4-5:30 p.m. at Peterborough Unitarian Church on Main Street. There are requirements for singing ability and self-motivation. Contact Maria Belva at 924-2055 or maria-belva@gmail.com. www.pcchoir.org.
- **CHICKS WITH STICKS BOOK CLUB** Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua Road, Milford, meets monthly on Thursdays, 3 p.m. in the AV Room. For grades 7 and up, this club invites participants to bring their current knitting projects, enjoy snacks and book discussions. New members and beginner knitters are welcome. Call 673-2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org.
- **FANTASY BOOK CLUB** held on the first Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, www.hollis.nh.us/library. For ages 8-13. For kids who love reading fantasy books about dragons, magic, the future and more. Free and open to the public.
- **GEEKS R US ANIME CLUB** for teens at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua Road, Milford, meets monthly on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. in the Keyes Meeting Room. Hang out

In the spotlight



Downward facing kid

Yoga has long been a means for relaxation, meditation and physical fitness, and now it's being offered for kids. Concord Parks & Recreation will hold a "Yoga for Kids" program at the Green Street Community Center (39 Green St., Concord) on Wednesdays, Jan. 11 to Feb. 22. The yoga class for kids in grades K through 2 will be held from 5 to 5:45 p.m. Kids in grades 3 through 6 will stretch and meditate from 6 to 6:45 p.m. This program seeks to create a fun, adventurous and safe environment and help kids find ways to deal with stress. Visit www.concordnh.gov/recreation or call 225-8690.

In the spotlight



Sounds of Afghanistan

Start the new year out with some international music. "Bach with Verse: the Afghanistan Project" will be presented at the Mariposa Museum (26 Main St., Peterborough) on Friday, Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. by Richard "Dobbs" Harts-horne. Dobbs will play music and show video of his recent trip to Afghanistan. A program he started, "Bach with Verse," involved collecting instruments and sheet music for what is now the Afghanistan National Institute of Music. His performance will be the final one of the Mariposa's exhibition "Along the Silk Road." There will be a KidCraft (winter craft) before the exhibition from 5 to 6 p.m., followed by a reception from 6 to 7 p.m. This event is free and open to public. Call 924-4555.

and discuss your favorite anime or manga series, games and activities. Call -2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org.

• **JR. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, for grades 5 and up, on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. Children can help organize, plan and run special family, children's and summer reading programs. They can earn volunteer hours. Sign up at www.hollislibrary.org.

• **MONDAY NIGHT SCRABBLE** every week, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, www.hollis.nh.us/library. Join young adults for some fun rounds of this classic word game. Invite a partner. Bring a Scrabble board, if possible.

• **NH INSTITUTE OF ART** (148 Concord St., Manchester, 866-241-4918, www.nhia.edu) offers classes for high school students college credit. Prices vary depending on type of class and materials needed.

• **QUEEN CITY BALLROOM TEEN CLASSES** Sundays, 4:30-5:15 p.m. at the Queen City Ballroom Studio, 21 Dow St., Manchester. For ages 11-19. Learn how to ballroom, swing and Latin dance. Each month features a different dance. Come with or without a partner. No pre-registration. Classes are free, but a commitment to regular attendance is required. E-mail qnctyballrm@aol.com or call 622-1500.

• **TEEN ADVISORY BOARD** meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m., at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, www.hollis.nh.us/library. For ages 13-18. Help the library plan programs, choose books and materials for teens, organize outreach, decorate the teen area, eat snacks and hang out with friends. Community service credit will be given.

• **TEEN COOKING CLUB** at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester, meets monthly on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Teens ages 11-18 are welcome to learn the basics of cooking, make their favorite dishes and explore new types of food. All materials will be provided. Club meets in the Winchell Room. Call 624-6550.

• **TEEN MUSIC CLASSES** at Music Together of Milford, 102 Elm St., Milford, on Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Advanced and intermediates welcome to acoustic music

class led by Amy Conley. Cost is \$10/session. Adults also welcome. Call -9560 to register. Visit www.amyconleymusic.com.

• **TEEN PIZZA & PAGES** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Thursdays, 3:30 p.m. For grades 5 and up. Enjoy pizza while discussing a book. Copies available on the teen display. Call 673-2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org.

• **TWEEN TUESDAYS** every Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the meeting room at the Hollis Social Library. Choose from Fantasy Book, Game Club, Craft Days, Book Buddies, or do all four. Fantasy Book Club is on the first Tuesday of every month and designed for kids who love reading fantasy books. Books provided at each meeting for the following month. Game Club is on the second Tuesday of every month and includes Wii, board games and snacks. Craft Days are the third Tuesday of every month. Book Buddies is the fourth Tuesday of every month and includes planning story times and crafts for preschool children. Read at after-school storytime and family pajama time

• **WII DAYS FOR TEENS** at Hollis Social Library, every other Friday, 3 p.m., for ages 12-18. Snacks and drinks provided. Sign up at the circulation desk.

• **TEEN WRITING CLUB** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua Road, Milford. Free-write for the first half hour, then read aloud (you can bring in anything you've been working on at home for this part). Call 673-2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org.

• **WRITER'S BLOCK** is a group of aspiring writers who meet up every Saturday in the Library Meeting Room at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis. Call 456-7728 after 5 p.m.

• **YOU'RE FIRED** (Bedford, 641-FIRE; Concord, 226-FIRE; Salem, 894-KILN; yourefirednh.com) Friday Night is Teen Night and teen studio fees are \$4 (half off).

CLUBS

Hobby

• **CONCORD TV JANUARY CLASSES** in TV and video production will take place at ConcordTV at Concord High School (170 Warren Street, Concord) this January. Free orientation is on Thus., Jan.

5, at 6 p.m., and includes a tour of the TV studio, information on classes and workshops, how to create your own TV show for Concord's local cable channel. Call Doris at 226-8872. Visit www.yourconcordtv.org. Classes include "Intro to Camera" and "Intro to Editing."

• **HOW I SEE IT** features photographer Edie Weiler, who will provide eclectic examples of film and digital photography, including tintypes and polaroid transfers through Jan. 23, 2012 at the Epsom Public Library (1606 Dover Road, Epsom). Call 736-9920.

• **ANIME AND MANGA CLUB** Anime and manga group is looking for members to join the new club forming at the Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson. Meetings will involve book discussions, anime viewing, workshops. Visit rogerslibrary.org or call 603-886-6030.

• **APPLE CLUB** Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, meets the last Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. This club will provide local user support for Apple products. User meetings feature product demos and discussions of technology as it relates to Apple computing. Visitors are welcome. Visit web.me.com/applepower.

• **GENEALOGY CLUB**, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, second Friday of each month, 1:30 p.m. Trade tips and techniques with others interested in family research and learn about genealogical resources located in the library. Visit www.rogerslibrary.org or call 886-6030 ext. 4522.

• **MANCHESTER RICHELIEU CLUB** meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at the Chateau Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. If you speak French, enhance your enjoyment of the language by becoming a member of this club. Call Walter Parenteau at 964-6925.

• **MANCHESTER STAMP CLUB** meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Villa Crest Nursing Home, 1276 Hanover St., Manchester. Call Bob Dion at 625-5082.

• **NASHUA CAMERA CLUB** meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at the Nashua Public Library. Each month there are three different topics chosen for competitions. Entries can be submitted either digitally or as prints no larger than 16"x20" (with mat) and no smaller than 8x10. Visitors and new members are always welcome. See www.nashuacameraclubnh.org or contact Dave Marden at 305-7036 or dmarden1@myfairpoint.net.

• **NASHUA SWIM & TENNIS CLUB** (140 Lock St., Nashua, 883-0153, www.nashuaswimandtennis.com) offers lessons and club tournaments in tennis.

• **NH FLYING TIGERS** radio control flying club meets the last Wednesday of every month at the B-St. Flying Field, 1 B St., or Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry. Visit newhampshireflyingtigers.org.

• **PAREI ENERGY EXCHANGE** to discuss renewable energy. Visit plymouthenergy.org or call 536-5030.

• **PHOTOGRAPHERS FORUM** camera club meets at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua, on the first and third Monday of each month (except July and August). This informal club offers educational programs for all ability levels and the opportunity to meet people with similar interests. Attend your first meeting free. Thereafter, dues are \$30 per year for individuals, \$50 for families; full-time students pay \$15. See www.photographersforum.org.

• **RADIO CLUB** Radio Club meets first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at First Church of Nashua, 1 Concord St., Nashua. Go to www.n1fd.org.

• **SOUTHERN NH FLYING EAGLES** club meets at their flying field in Merrimack throughout the summer. Meetings are open to the public. Visit snhflyingeagles.org.

• **SOCRATES CAFÉ** second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Starbucks, 1111 South Willow St., Manchester. Con-

tact Marc Berthiaume at Socratescafenh@comcast.net.

• **SOCRATES CAFE PHILOSOPHY DISCUSSION** meets the first Wednesday of each month, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Toadstool Bookshop in Lorden Plaza, Milford. Group is open to the public. Call 889-0839.

• **SOUHEGAN VALLEY BRIDGE PLAYERS** 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Wadleigh Memorial Library in Milford; newcomers always welcome.

• **SOUTHERN NH RADIO CONTROL CLUB** on the second Tuesday of the month at Wagner Field on Old Landfill Road in Hudson. Visit snhrcc.org or e-mail Wally Adaszczik at president@snhrcc.org.

• **UNITED DIVERS OF NH** the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the YMCA in Manchester (30 Mechanic St.). Visitors are welcome. Visit udnh.org.

• **WRITER'S BLOCK** is a group of aspiring writers who meet up every Saturday in the Library Meeting Room at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis. Call 456-7728 after 5 p.m.

Professional

• **CONCORD YOUNG PROFESSIONALS** meets third Wednesday each month. Call 224-2508 or e-mail rkinhan@concordnhchamber.com.

• **IUGO** is young professionals and is by the Greater Nashua Chamber of Commerce, nashuachamber.com. No cost for membership. Go to iugonashua.com.

• **MANCHESTER ROTARY CLUB** at 12:15 p.m. at Fratello's Restaurant (155 Dow St., Manchester). Visit www.manchesterrotary.org.

• **MANCHESTER YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NETWORK** meets monthly; see www.mypn.org.

• **NEW HAMPSHIRE CREATIVE CLUB** is an organization of creative professionals such as graphic designers, photographers, illustrators, copywriters, desktop publishers, printers, color separators and other professionals in related fields. The club serves as a creative forum for networking and education in the advertising and visual communications field through a series of monthly meetings that include panel discussions, presentations and workshops. Visit nhcreativeclub.org.

CRAFTS

Sewing

• **NEEDLE FELT A RABBIT** is a class that will teach how to create a seasonal rabbit to start your Needle-Felt collection. No experience required. Class to be held Sat., Jan. 21, from 1 to 4 p.m. Open to all. Class will be held at the League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Gallery at 98 Main Street. Class fee is \$30 due upon registration with a \$20 materials fee payable to the instructor. Call 595-8233 or e-mail nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **DROP-IN STITCHERS** on Fridays, 9:30 to 11:30., at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson. Work on knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching or any other needlework project with company, and pass the time while sharing ideas and techniques for future work. Call 886-6030.

• **LEVESQUE SEWING MACHINE** (1261 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 645-1661, levesquesewvac.com) offers classes from beginner to advanced in sewing and quilting. Classes are scheduled according to demand; call to find out about availability.

• **MERRI STITCHES** (72 Mirona Road, Portsmouth, 431-9922; 58 Range Road, Windham, 685-0185, merristitches.com) offers classes and workshops, as well as a sit and sew. Visit the website for a schedule at each store.

• **NASHUA SEW AND VAC** (228 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-2757 nashuasewandvac.com) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for children.

• **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in

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GARDENING GUY

Winterize your garden

A second use for those Christmas trees

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

I know people who take down their Christmas trees right after Christmas. I am not one of them. I think of my tree as a holiday tree, or even a winter tree. I like to keep it up at least until Groundhog Day, and once, when I had a really fresh one, I kept it up until St. Patrick's Day. I like trees outdoors, but having lights and green branches indoors helps dispel the gloom of winter.

Because I keep my tree up longer than most, I keep my eyes peeled for trees set by the side of the road, discarded or unsold. I consider the branches of evergreens to be gold, and bring home unwanted trees. Why? I use the branches to protect delicate plants. You can, too, so don't throw yours out when it comes down.

Snow is a great insulator, and in recent years we've had lots of snow most of the winter, starting in early December or even earlier. Not this year. It's been warm and we've mostly had rain, not snow, through November and December. Or we've had cold or snowy periods followed by warm days — a recipe for trouble. Plants do best if their roots don't go through freeze-thaw cycles, especially plants in their first winter when the roots have not yet extended far and wide.

Freezing and thawing of soil can push plants up out of the soil, or crack the frozen soil open, exposing roots to air — which is generally lethal. Which brings me back to those Christmas trees: I cut off branches and use them as mulch around or over new or tender plants.

This year I planted three Himalayan blue poppy plants (*Mecanopsis betonicifolia*) to replace a clump that died in the winter of 2010-2011. My ground is frozen now, and I want it to stay frozen, so I cut some evergreen boughs and placed them over those poppies. A 6- to 8-inch layer of evergreen branches will do much to keep the soil frozen if we have a few warm days. Of course a week of warm rain will penetrate even that, but there is only so much a gardening guy can do.

I have used Christmas tree boughs to protect tender shrubs by covering their branches, too. I lean the branches up against a tender rose, for example, creating a teepee that protects the above-ground portion of the plant as well as its roots. Strong cold winds can kill flower buds — or entire branches of plants that really would rather be growing in Virginia, for example. I have occasionally piled straw or mulch hay over the branches for added protection.

Deer are not a problem for me: Daphne, my able-bodied, full-throated corgi of great intelligence, is able to scare them away, even at night. I'm not sure how she does it, since she sleeps in her padded basket near the stove at night, not out protecting my shrubs. But deer rarely come, only passing to pick up fallen apples from time to time. (And once on Christmas Eve, before Daphne, they ate all my Brussels



At top, protecting perennials with evergreen branches. Directly above, how to protect shrubs. Henry Homeyer photos

sprouts — though some think that damage might have been done by reindeer).

Deer repellents don't work for long, and tall fencing for deer (8 feet is generally recommended to keep them out) is expensive. So what to do? Small shrubs like the yews favored as front-of-the-house muffin-like decorations are easily wrapped in burlap, which will thwart even the most determined deer. Garden centers sell burlap by the yard, or in rolls. Wrap your shrub, and then keep it in place with some garden twine. This will also protect tender shrubs from winter winds.

Burlap is also good for protecting sections of the lawn. If your snowplow driver pushes sand and gravel up with the snow in a big pile at the end of the driveway, on your lawn, you will have lots of spring cleanup. If you lay down burlap (or black landscape fabric), you can catch all that messy detritus, making spring cleanup easier.

Don't spread out a 20-foot section of material, however, as that would be impossible to move, come spring. Cut 6-foot sections and overlap them a little. If your ground is not frozen when you do this, I recommend pinning down the fabric with landscape staples.

One last idea for protecting plants in winter: you can spray your rhododendrons and azaleas with Wilt Pruf. It puts a clear waxy coating on the leaves to keep them from losing moisture and drying out once the ground has frozen and the plants cannot replace moisture lost on warm, sunny days. I've used this, and it does make a difference. According to their website (www.wiltpruf.com), the product is suitable for use by organic gardeners.

Henry Homeyer is the author of four gardening books. His website is Gardening-Guy.com.

sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for schedule.

• **NH ACADEMY OF SEWING** (Canterbury, 783-9270, nhacademyofsewing.com) offers classes covering all aspects of garment sewing, pattern fitting, pattern drafting,

and fit; classes range from learning to sew to making a garment. Private lessons are also available.

• **PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING** (57 North Main St., Concord, 223-2344, peggyannes.com) offers classes on quilting,

sewing and more. See schedule on website.

Other
• **STAINED GLASS CLASS-BEGINNER** presented by the League of NH Craftsmen will take



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Unconventional world travel

Salem couple to show photos of their ‘trip of a lifetime’ at library presentation

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Bob and Linda Harvey have never been ones for conventional vacations. Rather than opt for a relaxing holiday on a warm beach post-retirement, the Harveys took a month-long “trip of a lifetime” around the world this year. Linda Harvey will show her photos and share stories from the trip at a presentation at the Kelley Library in Salem (234 Main St.) on Thursday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m. The Harveys’ preferred mode of travel is a bicycle built for two, with Bob leading the way up front and Linda in the back. “Our philosophy has always been, if a car can get there, a bicycle can get there,” Linda said. “After all, that’s what the gears are for,” Bob added. The couple has ridden as far as 100 miles at a time on a tandem bicycle; in touristy areas, the average may be closer to 35 miles. They stop whenever they want to, go wherever they want to, and don’t have to worry about parking. On a bike you can stop at churches, wander through villages, and pause to sift through flea markets. And you don’t have to worry about gas money. The best part? “When you’re cycling, you’re right in the midst of it,” Linda said.

“You can hear the birds; you can smell the flowers. If it’s raining, you’re going to get wet, and you’ll get the country odors, for sure. You become part of the experience, instead of just an observer,” Linda said. They’ve been on biking trips all over the world and have organized a few along the way as well. They ride tandem on trips to New Zealand, England, Italy, France, Canada, Switzerland, Sweden and elsewhere. Each country and each place has its charm, Linda said. “Sweden has such great accommodations for cyclists, which was nice because it was so unexpected; Switzerland was wonderful, but I liked the hiking part more than cycling there,” she said. “The country lanes in England are fascinating, but they’re scary!” Europe has been a great place to tour because the countries there are more bicycle-friendly, Bob said. The couple has also traveled on tandem tours together. They are currently Northeast representatives in the Tandem Club of America. On a bicycle tour or a planned bicycle trip, you’re part of a large group of people. Riding tandem, in particular, ensures that you’re never lonely or bored. Websites such as trektravel.com, rei.com, bicyclingworld.com and breakingaway.com offer ways for experienced cyclists to become

“part” of their travels, as Linda describes. And there are signs that indicate that bicycling may become more prominent. Non-profit groups such as Bike & Build offer young people a chance to build houses while riding across the country for a summer, and the paving of rail trails in New Hampshire will soon provide more incentive for folks to utilize their bikes instead of cars in everyday travel. The pair had been cycling for quite a while before they took on the tandem wheels. They learned of the two-person bike at a cycling rally. Bob said it was a sales pitch a tandem bike representative gave at the rally that captured their attention. “I couldn’t keep up with him, and he was always waiting for me,” Linda said. “That was part of the selling point! They [the tandem cycling representatives] asked us, ‘Are you always waiting at the top of the hill for your friend to catch up? Are you the type of person who rides circles around your friend? Do you speed off again when she finally catches up and is trying to catch her breath?’ All the women were nodding their head,” she laughed. “It was a way for us to cycle together.” Cycling also provided them with a community. “People who ride tandem, for the most part, tend to be a whole lot more social; and you



Bob and Linda have traveled all over the world via tandem bicycle. Courtesy photo..

have to be, because you have to get along in order to ride together,” Linda said. “We can go to virtually any tandem rally in the country, and we’ll bump into somebody we know,” Bob said. For those who would like to take on the wheels but are out of practice, Bob and Linda advise joining a bike club. Check out the New Hampshire Cycling Club (nhcyclingclub.com), Granite State Wheelmen (granitestatewheelmen.org), Banagan’s Bike Club and the Friends of Massabesic Bicycling Association.

Travels with the Harveys
When: Thursday, Jan. 19, at 7 p.m.
Where: Kelley Library, 234 Main St., Salem, 898-7064, www.kelleylibrary.org

place Tuesdays, Jan. 17 to Feb. 14, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Classes will be held at Renaissance Glassworks (99 Factory St. Extension in Nashua). Class fee of \$250 (includes tools) is due upon registration, and a materials fee (\$15 -\$30) is payable to the instructors. Call 595-8233 or e-mail nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

- **STAINED GLASS CLASS-INTERMEDIATE** presented by the League of NH Craftsmen will take place Thursdays, Jan. 19 through Feb. 16, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Classes will be held at Renaissance Glassworks (99 Factory St. Extension in Nashua). Adults only. Class fee of \$150 (includes tools) is due upon registration, and a materials fee (~\$25) is payable to the instructors. Call 595-8233 or e-mail nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.
- **JEWELRY WORKSHOP** on Sat., Jan. 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Gallery (98 Main St.). Class fee is \$55 due upon registration with a \$20 materials fee payable to the instructor. For more information, or to register, call 595-8233 or e-mail nashuarg@nhcrafts.org. Learn how to make wire chains.
- **BEADING CLASSES** Bead Bush Studio, 43 Mt. Delight Road, Deerfield. Register at www.beadbush.com.
- **DRAWING LESSONS** Becks Arts Express, at Toys Spot, 115 Northeastern Blvd. in Nashua. Call 889-1670 or e-mail admin@artsexpressnh.com for times and to register.
- **IKEBANA JAPANESE FLOWER ARRANGEMENT** weekly classes held on Wed., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. Evening classes on Thurs. & Fri. 595-8877, www.ikebanafflower.com.
- **LADIES NIGHT** You’re Fired Studio (133 Loudon Road, Concord; 25 South River Road, Bedford, and

264 North Broadway, Salem, www.yourefirednh.com) on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 9 p.m. Half off studio fee for ladies. Adults only. Call 641-FIRE (Bedford), 226-FIRE (Concord) or 894-KILN (Salem).

- **POTTERY CLASSES** Fall class space is available at Pottery@PhoebesBarn at 16 N. Main St., Mont Vernon. Classes are ongoing and accommodate all levels and ages. To register, call 673-3410 or e-mail pottery@phobesbarn.com. Visit www.phobesbarn.com.
- **WEAVING** Floor and Table Loom at the Yarn and Fiber Company (11 Manchester Road, Derry, www.yarnandfiber.com) on Tuesdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Six weekly two-hour sessions cost \$120. Looms are available for class use and to use at home. Call 505-4432.

DANCE

- **Arthur Murray Dance Studio** 99 Elm St., Manchester, 624-6857, learntodancetoday.com
- **Bliss Healing Arts Center LLC** 250 Commercial St. # 2007, 624-0080, blisshealing.com
- **Dance International Studio** 83 Hanover St., Manchester, 858-0162, importers-exporters.com/DIS.htm
- **Kathy Blake Dance Studios** 3 Northern Blvd. in Amherst, 673-3978, kathyblakedancesstudios.com
- **Krystal Ballroom Dance Studio** 352 S. Broadway, Salem, 870-9350, krystalballroom.com
- **Let’s Dance Studio** 5 North Main St., Concord, 228-2800, letsdancenrh.com
- **Mill-A-Round Dance Center** 250 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-3880, millaround.com

- **N-Step Dance Center** 2626 Brown Ave Manchester, 641-6787 nstepdance.com
- **Paper Moon Dance Center** 515 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-1100, papermoondance.com.
- **Queen City Ballroom** 21 Dow St., Manchester, 622-1500, queencityballroomnh.com
- **Royal Palace Dance Studio** 167 Elm St., Manchester, 621-9119, royalpalacedance.com
- **Senior Activity Center** 70 Temple St., Nashua, 889-6155
- **Steppin’ Out Dance Studio** 1201 Westford St., Lowell, 978-452-1111, steppinoutdance-lowell.com

Folk Classes and Dance

- **LINE DANCE** and Couples Dance lessons with Gail Eaton at the Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road Newmarket) on Wed., Jan. 4 Wed., Jan. 11, Wed., Jan. 18, and Wed., Jan. 25, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Classes are \$8 per lesson/person or \$10 for the entire session.
- **COUNTRY DANCE & INSTRUCTION** on Fri., Jan. 13, at 7:30. Admission is \$20 for pre-registration, \$25 for the day of the event.
- **COUNTRY NIGHT** at the Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road Newmarket) on Fri., Jan. 6, Fri., Jan. 20, and Fri., Jan. 27, from 8 p.m. to 12 a.m. DJ Ted Razz will provide entertainment. Admission is \$10 at the door. Cash bar and snacks available
- **ENGLISH FOLK DANCE** on Sun., Jan. 8, from 5:30 to 7:45 p.m., at Presidential Oaks, 200 Pleasant Street, Concord. Dave Bateman leads the dances with Bruce Cobb (fiddle) and Justine Paul (keyboard). Beginners and singles welcome. \$8. 934-2543, nheds.org.
- **AFRICAN DANCE** and drumming

workshop taught by Theo Martey on Fridays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Murphy’s Gym, 163 Lake Ave., Manchester. The Akwaaba Ensemble features West African drumming and dance. Cost is \$13; purchase a card for \$72 for six weeks. Drums provided if you don’t have them. See www.akwaabaensemble.com or call 224-5582.

- **BEGINNERS LINE DANCING** at the Circle 9 Ranch, 39 Windymere Drive, Epsom, Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Visit www.circle9ranch.com or call 736-9656.
- **BORDER CITY SQUARES** offers square dance lessons every Mon., 7-9 p.m. First night is free. Dance is held at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 4 Watson St., Nashua. See bordercitysquares.freesevers.com or call Cheryl Imbody at 438-2366.
- **CIRCLE 9 RANCH** (30 Windymere Drive, Epsom, 736-9656), hosts a dance lesson every Saturday at 7 p.m. through August. See www.circle9ranch.com.
- **HAPPY TIME SQUARES** meets every Wednesday in the Community Room of the Rochester Community Center, 150 Wakefield St., Rochester. Members range from 8 to 80, and anyone interested in learning about Contemporary Square Dance is encouraged to attend. See www.happytimesquares.org.
- **GREEK FOLK DANCING** Sunday evenings at the St. George Greek Orthodox Community Center in Manchester. Open to everyone. Call 497-4581.
- **LINE DANCING** on Mondays at the Nashua Activity Center, beginners 4:45-5:45 p.m., improvers 7-8 p.m. Cost is \$50, runs for eight weeks.
- **LINE DANCING** on Wednesdays at Campbell High School (Highlander Way, Litchfield), 7-8 p.m., contact

Campbell HS Community Program at 546-0300.

- **LINE DANCING** on Thursdays at the Windham Senior Center (2 North Lowell Road, Windham), 9:45-10:45 a.m., for 4 weeks. Call the Windham Rec. Dept. at 965-1208.
- **LINE DANCING** on Mondays and Thursdays at the Nashua Sr. Center. Absolute Beginners-Beginners and Improver classes offered. Contact CJ at nhgrizzlies@comcast.net for info, times and fee.
- **LINE DANCING LESSONS** at the Mill-a-Round Dance Center. Beginner, easy, intermediate, available on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays. Cost is \$8. Visit www.millaround.com for specific dates and times.
- **MILL CITY CONTRA DANCE** at the Waumbec Mill, 250 Commercial St., Manchester, the third Friday of every month. A beginners’ workshop takes place at 7:30 p.m., while the dance goes from 8 to 11 p.m. No partner necessary; all dances taught. Costs \$8 for adults, \$5 for students (under 12 free). See tinyurl.com/Mill-City-Contra.
- **NEW ENGLAND CONTRA DANCE** will be held Fri., Jan. 13, from 8 to 11 p.m. at the Mayflower Grange/Londonderry Senior Center (535 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry). Family-friendly environment, and partner not necessary! Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for seniors and \$3 for those 12 and under. Call 529-1586. Email wearampm@gsinet.net.
- **RHYTHM LINE DANCING** at Royal Palace Dance Studio on Tuesdays 6:15-7 p.m. Visit royalpalacedance.com or call 621-9119.
- **SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING** on Wednesdays 7-9 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 215 Main St., Nashua (e-mail nashuascd@

comcast.net); and second and fourth Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 69 Washington St., Keene (call Bill Schenck, 352-6968). Visit rscds-boston.org for a complete list.

- **SQUARE DANCE FAMILY FUN NIGHTS** hosted by Heel & Toe Square Dance Club at the Cercle National Club, 550 Rockland Ave., Manchester. Couples, singles, and families are welcome. Call 497-3484 or 497-3414.
- **WORLD DANCE** on second and fourth Thursday of each month, 7-9 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Milford. All dances taught each night. Call 487-2732 or e-mail maryfloyd62@comcast.net.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

HOSPITALS & CLINICS

- **Catholic Medical Center** 100 McGregor St., Manchester, 626-2626, catholicmedicalcenter.org
- **Concord Hospital** 250 Pleasant St., Concord, 225-2711, concordhospital.org
- **Dartmouth-Hitchcock Clinic** 100 Hitchcock Way, Manchester, 695-2500, dartmouth-hitchcock.org
- **Elliot Hospital** One Elliot Way, Manchester, 669-5300, elliothospital.org
- **Manchester Community Health Center** 145 Hollis Street., Manchester, 626-9500, mchc-nh.org
- **The Mental Health Center of Greater Manchester** 401 Cypress St., Manchester, 668-4111, mhcgcm.org
- **NH Hospice and Palliative Care Organization** 125 Airport Road, Concord, 225-0900, nhhpc.org

• **Parkland Medical Center**
One Parkland Drive, Derry,
432-1500,
parklandmedicalcenter.com
• **Southern N.H. Medical Center**
8 Prospect St., Nashua,
577-2255, snhmc.org
• **St. Joseph Hospital**
172 Kinsley St., Nashua,
595-3168, stjosephhospital.com.
• **Visiting Nurse Association**
33 S. Commercial St.,
Manchester, 622-3781,
manchestervna.org

OTHER

• **American Red Cross**
1800 Elm St., Manchester,
624-4307, redcrossmanchester.org
28 Concord St., Nashua,
889-6664, nashua.redcross.org.
2 Maitland St., Concord,
225-6697, concord-redcross.org
• **The Children's Place and Parent Education Center**
27 Burns Ave. in Concord, 224-9920, thechildrensplacen.org
• **The Compassionate Friends**
Greater Manchester Chapter
tcfmanchester.org
• **Daniel Webster College**
20 University Dr., Nashua,
577-6625, dwc.edu.
• **Easter Seals NH**
555 Auburn St., 623-8863,
nh.easterseals.com
• **Full Spectrum Wellness LLC**
55 South Commercial St.,
Manchester, 296-0830,
fullspectrumwellness.com
• **Greater Manchester YMCA**
30 Mechanic St.,
623-3558, gmfymca.org
• **Healing Hands Chiropractic**
25 Nashua Rd Suite F2 in
Londonderry, 434-3456
501 Riverway Place in Bedford,
647-0600; healinghandsnh.com
• **The Holistic Self Care Center**
12 Murphy Drive in Nashua,
883-1490, thehsccenter.com
• **Manchester Health Department Community Health Division**
1528 Elm St. in Manchester,
624-6466, manchesternh.gov
• **Nashua Division of Public Health & Community Services**
18 Mulberry St. in Nashua,
589-4560, gonashua.com
• **Nashua Senior Center**
70 Temple St. In Nashua,
889-6155, nashuaseniorcenter.org
• **National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)**
1-800-242-6264, naminh.org
• **Naturopathic Clinic of Concord**
46 S. Main St. in Concord, 228-0407, concordnaturopathic.com
• **Pastoral Counseling Services**
2013 Elm St., Manchester, 627-2702, pcs-nh.org
• **William B. Cashin Senior Activity Center**
151 Douglas St. in Manchester,
624-6536, manchesternh.gov
• **Women Supporting Women**
111 Water St., Exeter, 772-0799,
wswcenter.com
• **YWCA**
72 Concord St., Manchester,
625-5785, ywca.org

Workshops, seminars & events
• **LEARN HOW TO USE EMOTIONAL FREEDOM TECHNIQUE** at Nia NH and Yoga (76 Route 101A, Amherst) on Sat., Jan. 7, from 11 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. EFT, also known as "acupuncture without needles," is a non-invasive healing modality where participant is actively involved in restoring their flow of energy. Class costs \$30. Registration required; Call 562-7525 or visit www.nianhandyoga.com/events to register.
• **CLEAN EATING/DETOX PRO-**

GRAM at the Holistic Self Care Center (12 Murphy Drive, Nashua) on Mon., Jan. 9, at 6 p.m., Mon., Feb. 13, at 6 p.m., and Mon., March 12, at 6 p.m. Call the HSCC to reserve your seat at 883-1490. Visit www.thehsccenter.com or email info@thehsccenter.com.

• **FREE WOMEN'S SELF-DEFENSE SEMINAR** at Bedford Martial Arts Academy (334 Route 101 Bedford, N.H.) on Tues., Jan. 10, at 6 p.m. Seminar will demonstrate real-life techniques and practical information on various ways to protect themselves in the event of an attack. Hands-on training of simple strikes, blocks, joint manipulations and situational awareness techniques. Call 626-9696 or email info@bedfordmartialartsacademy.com.

• **WACKY SONGS THAT MADE US LAUGH** is a program brought by the Friends of the Merrimack Library in the Merrimack Library's Klumpp meeting room (470 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack) on Wed., Jan. 11, at 7 p.m. Calvin Knickerboxer will lead the discussion on how popular songs with humorous lyrics have kept us laughing since colonial times, in addition to providing excerpts from hilarious songs to help chart the evolution of musical humor. Free and open to the public. Register online at www.merrimack.lib.nh.us or by phone at 424-5021.

• **TUCKER FREE LIBRARY** (31 Western Avenue Henniker) will host Henniker resident and new author Mary Macklin who will help plot fitness goals, so that behavioral changes and resolutions will last. Event takes place Tues., Jan. 17, at 6:30 p.m. Call 428-3471.

• **COMMUNICATION & COOPERATION WITH YOUR TEEN** will help attendees learn how to negotiate and actively problem-solve parent/teen issues using methods of de-escalating conflict and building and maintaining relationships. Program on Tues., Jan. 17 at Hollis Brookline High School (24 Cavalier Court Hollis) will begin at 7 p.m. in room 221/222. There is no cost to attend, however, pre-registration is requested. Please call Monica Gallant at 672-6115 or email mgallant4@aol.com to register.

• **THE GLASS IS HALF FULL** offers "positive thinking for a positive you" at the Hooksett Library (31 Mount Saint Marys Way, Hooksett) on Mon., Jan. 23, at 10 a.m. Find out how positive thinking brings inner peace, improved relationships, better health and satisfaction in daily affairs. Presented by representative from Concord Regional Visiting Nurse Association. Register at hooksettlibrary.org.

• **DINNER WITH THE DOCS** St. Joseph Hospital, 172 Kinsley St., Nashua, 595-5300, is offering seven "Dinner with the Docs" classes this fall. Each class is \$10 and includes dinner. Classes run from 6 to 8 p.m. To register, call 595-3168 or go to www.stjosephhospital.com/classes.
• **GROWING OLDER, STAYING WELL** program will discuss 10 most common health problems and what you can do about them on Mon., March 26, from 2:30-3:30 p.m., at Martin's Point Health Care, 16 Corporate Drive, Portsmouth. Free event, registration required. Visit www.martinspoint.org

First aid

• **FIRST AID & SAFETY CLASSES** from the Granite Chapter of the Red Cross, serving the Concord, Lakes and Hanover region. Classes are in general first aid, emergency response and becoming a Red Cross instructor. Go to www.concord-redcross.org or call 225-6697.
• **HEALTH & SAFETY** classes from NH Gateway Chapter of Red Cross (28 Concord St. in Nashua, 889-6664, nashua.redcross.org). Classes include first aid, automated external defibrillator, adult CPR, infant or child CPR, professional rescuer CPR/AED, sport safety training and more.
• **SAFETY TRAINING** Greater Manchester Chapter of the American Red Cross (1800 Elm St., Manchester, 624-

In the spotlight



Boot-scooting

Got a little country in you? Check out some of the classes and dance offerings at the Rockingham Ballroom (22 Ash Swamp Road in Newmarket) for January. On Fridays, Jan. 6, Jan. 20 and Jan. 27, from 8 p.m. to midnight, bring it down country style. Admission is \$10 at the door. Cash bar and snacks available. Don't have the country moves in you? Then perhaps you should check out the Ballroom's Country Dance & Instruction before you hit the dance floor. The class will occur Friday, Jan. 13, at 7:30. Admission is \$20 in advance, or \$25 the day of the event. Call 659-4410, visit www.therockinghamballroom.com, or e-mail Alan@therockinghamballroom.com.

4307, www.nhredcross.org) offers courses on lifeguarding, CPR for adults and children as well as for professional certifications, defibrillator training and HIV/AIDS workshops. Courses are ongoing. Prices and times vary.

Screenings

• **BLOOD PRESSURE** screenings free from parish nurses in Nashua. Drop in Mon., Wed., Fri., between 9 a.m. and noon at Milette Manor, 72 Vine St., Nashua, 598-2424, www.stjosephhospital.com.
• **BLOOD PRESSURE AND NURSE CONSULTS** in various faith communities throughout greater Manchester. Call the Catholic Medical Center's Parish Nurse Program at 663-8004.
• **BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS** Catholic Medical Center's Prime Time Program will offer a free screening on Thursdays from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Mill West Building, 195 McGregor St., Suite LL22 in Manchester. Walk-ins are welcome and other times are available by appointment. Call 663-6333.
• **BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING** every Wed. 9-11 a.m. at Southern NH Medical Center. No appointment needed; walk-ins welcome. Call 577-2002.
• **BREAST AND CERVICAL CANCER** screenings at St. Joseph Hospital. Free for women age 18-64 that do not have health insurance and fall within necessary income guidelines. Call 882-3000 ext. 67188 for appointment.

• **HEARING** screenings second Wed. of each month from 9 a.m. to noon at the Roger Dionne MD Senior Center at St. Joseph Hospital. Free. To register, call 595-3722.
• **HEARING LOSS SCREENING** with the Avada Hearing Care Center of Merrimack on Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to noon. Free. Register early, as space is limited. To register call Community Health Education at St. Joseph Hospital at 595-3722.
• **HEARING SCREENING** at Southern NH Medical Center. Certified audiologists from Southern NH Rehabilitation Center conduct free hearing screenings, open to anyone who has not had a hearing screening in the past year or who does not have a hearing aid(s). Please specify your date choice in the comment field when applying online at snhmc.org or call HEALTHMATCH at 577-2255.

• **HIV/STD CLINIC** at the Nashua Division of Public Health & Community Services on Mondays 1-3 p.m. and Thursdays 5-7 p.m. Suggested fee is \$25.
• **IMMUNIZATION CLINIC** at the Manchester Health Community Health Division on Mondays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9 to 11:30 a.m. and Thursdays from 3 to 6 p.m. Immunizations are provided free of charge for children up to the age of 18. Some adult vaccines are available. Call 624-6466 for info. Bring a copy of your most current immunization record.

• **IMMUNIZATIONS** at the Nashua Division of Public Health & Community Services

on Tuesdays from 4 to 7 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m. Cost is \$10.

• **LEAD SCREENINGS** at the Manchester Health Community Health Division, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All Manchester children should receive a lead screening at one and two years of age. Older children, ages 36 to 72 months, who have not been screened previously should also receive a lead screening. Call 624-6466 to schedule an appointment.
• **MONTHLY PODIATRY CLINIC** Physicians from Nashua Podiatry Associates will be seeing patients during their free monthly podiatry clinic at The Roger Dionne Senior Center at St. Joseph Hospital. This clinic is for the evaluation, diagnosis and treatment of the lower extremities and provides treatment for common foot problems, conditions associated with diabetes and other vascular diseases. Appointments are scheduled for third Tuesday of every month. Call 595-3722 to make an appointment.
• **TUBERCULOSIS SCREENINGS** at the Manchester Health Community Health Division on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Clients must return within 48-72 hours after the test is done in order to have the test read. Cost is \$10.
• **VNABLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS** on Mondays at the Elliot Senior Health Center (136 Webster St., Manchester). No registration required. For more information and screening times call Elliot On-Call 663-4567.
• **WALK-IN HIV/STD CLINIC** at the Manchester Health Community Health Division on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Scheduled appointments are available Monday, 4-5 p.m. and Wednesday, 3-5 p.m. Individuals interested in testing only should use walk-in hours. Suggested fee is \$20. To schedule an appointment, call 624-6466.

MISCELLANEOUS

Antiques

• **WOODWIND WORKSHOP WEEK** at Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord) from Mon., Jan. 16, to Thus., Jan. 19. Free workshop welcomes all ages and musical abilities. Sessions include oboe reed-making, hypnosis for peak performance, large ensemble reading and mixed woodwind choirs. Visit www.ccmusicschool.org for specific times and dates. Call 228-1196.
• **DECOR: FROM THE RUG UP** is a presentation hosted by Kelly Murphy on Tues., Jan. 24, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Hollis Social Library (2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721). Murphy will demonstrate how to coordinate flooring, fabrics and wall coverings for a look you'll love. Register by calling the library or visiting <http://www.hollislibrary.org/>.
• **VIBRANT VOICE** class will be offered at the Concord Community Music School (23 Wall St., Concord) for community members on the third Wednesday of every month (Jan. 18 through May 16) from 7:30 to 9 p.m. Discover deeper layers of your

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Reader likes the car but not the feel of the road



Dear Tom and Ray:
I recently purchased a 2006 Mazda MX5 with 48,000 miles. When I test-drove the car, it seemed like a great car, and since I always wanted to own a convertible roadster, I bought the car. The problem is that after I bought it, when I drove it from San Diego to Los Angeles, I noticed that this car rides pretty rough. I mean, you can feel every imperfection in the road. Needless to say, my wife, who suffers from motion sickness, is not very happy and never wants to ride in the car again. I have taken the car back to the

dealership, and they say that's how Miatas ride. I really don't want to get rid of the car, but I need to accommodate my queen. What can I do to get the ride to be smoother? I have 205 50 16 tires on it. — Pedro

TOM: Pedro, you dope! Haven't you ever heard of the "feel of the road"? That's what sports cars are designed to deliver. If you didn't want to feel the road, you should've bought a Buick.

RAY: Generally speaking, the things that make a car "fun to drive" make it nauseating to be a passenger.

TOM: There's not much you can do now. Little roadsters are designed to have very firm suspensions, so they stick to the road and turn sharply when you drive on those curvy mountain roads. That's the appeal of these cars.

RAY: And the reason they all have convertible tops is so that when the driver's wife needs to puke, she can just lean right over the side with no obstructions, like windows and side pillars.

TOM: You should, of course, check your tire pressure, because overinflated tires will harden a ride. But we're assuming that you or the dealer has done that.

RAY: And if you think a little

improvement in ride comfort might be enough to create peace in your household, you can try replacing your tires with four "grand touring" tires, like the General Altimax or the Continental ContiPro Contact.

TOM: Tires that are designated "grand touring" concentrate on providing maximum ride comfort and minimal road noise, even at the expense of some cornering ability. That's the exact tradeoff you're looking to make right now.

RAY: But keep in mind that while they may help some, they're not going to transform the Miata into a Lincoln Town Car.

TOM: So, if you think that with a little improvement, your queen might approve of the Miata, try four grand touring tires. But if it's going to take more than a little softening to make her happy, don't waste your money on the tires. Instead, put it toward your next car.

RAY: And this time, bring her with you on the test drive. Good luck, Pedro.

Dear Tom and Ray:
What went wrong with my baby? Years ago, I owned my favorite car ever: a 1994 Oldsmobile Cut-

lass Supreme in Triple White (white paint, white top and white leather). That car was amazing. The best road-trip car I've ever seen, it would run at 2,000 rpm at 75 mph. Beautiful. Anyway, about six years ago, the car developed a strange problem. When it wasn't warmed up, it would never shift out of first gear. As soon as the car warmed up, everything ran just fine. On a cold morning, I would have to run the car for 30 minutes before I could leave the house. I had to trade in the car, because I thought I couldn't afford to fix it. Then, one month after trading it in, I discovered that the car dealer I traded it to had fixed it and started using it as his personal car. Six years on, I just saw him driving around in it the other day. It is still his personal car, and it got me wondering: What in the world was wrong with that car, and was it something I could have fixed easily? — James

TOM: Yes, you could have fixed this easily, James. All it would have taken was money.

RAY: And maybe not that much money. Shame on you for not getting it checked out at the time. It could have been something as simple as a solenoid that was sticking or some dirt in the valve body. Maybe a trans-

mission flush might have fixed it.

TOM: Or, it could have been complete transmission failure. But it would have been nice to know before you traded in your baby.

RAY: Now all you can do is guess. To make you feel better, James, let's assume that the transmission itself was dying, and that it would have cost you \$2,000 to buy and install a new one. If that were the case, you might have decided to let the car go, right?

TOM: Keep in mind, too, that the dealer can fix stuff a lot cheaper than you can. He's got a mechanic on staff he can make use of. So it may have been a different financial calculation for him than it would have been for you.

RAY: But there's nothing you can do now, James, except move to another city. Seeing this guy happily tool around in your beloved car every week clearly is not doing you any good.

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voice! Open to men and women over 18. Cost for five classes is \$85. Call 228-1196 or visit www.ccmusicschool.org.

Other

• **DEBATE THE DEBATE** on Thus., Jan. 5, at 7 p.m. in the Walker Auditorium at Southern NH University (2500 South River Road, Manchester). Doors open at 6 p.m. Robust, interactive conversation about candidates, campaigns and issues, featuring political strategists Phil Musser and Matt Wylie, Google/social media expert Rob Saliterman and WMUR/Political Scoop rep. James Pindell. Register at wethepeoplefreedomforum.org.

• **TALK ON CLIMBING MT. EVEREST** at the Nashua Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on Thus., Jan. 5, at 7 p.m. Find out what it takes physically and mentally to reach the summit with professional mountain guide and Everest conqueror Craig John in a multimedia presentation. Call 589-4610.

• **MT. EVEREST PRESENTATION** at the Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst) on Tues., Jan. 10, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. He'll cover his ascent on the seldom-climbed North Ridge of Mt. Everest, while also covering some of his other expeditions, such as those on Kilimanjaro, Denali and Cho Oyu. Call 673-2288 or email library@amherst.lib.nh.us and selecting "Calendar of Events." Visit www.craigjohnclimbing.com. Workshop free; however, registration is required due to space limitations.

• **SONGWEAVERS**, the popular a cappella women's chorus at Concord Community Music School, is looking for new members for Open Sing. Come Tues., Jan. 10, from 7:30 to 9 p.m., or Wed., Jan. 11, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. No auditions to join; women of all

ages and musical experience welcome.

• **TEAM TRIVIA TOURNAMENT** to benefit the Wolfeboro Area Children's Center will take place Wednesdays, Jan. 11 to Feb. 15 from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Wolfeboro Inn Ballroom (90 North Main Street, Wolfeboro). Tickets are \$15 per person, which includes hearty soups, breads, salad bar and trivia night. The first five weeks are preliminary rounds that lead up to the Team trivia Championship night on the final, sixth Wednesday. Call 569-1028 or email info@wolfeborochildren.org. Proceeds benefit the Wolfeboro Area Children's Center.

• **SHOAH (HOLOCAUST) SEMINAR** begins Thus., Jan. 12, at the Congregation Betenu in Amherst (5 Northern Blvd #). Each weekly meeting addresses one or two key questions raised by Holocaust. Ten meetings Thursdays, between 7 and 8:30 p.m. No pre-registration required, however, RSVP appreciated. Tentative dates for meetings are Thus. Jan. 12, Jan. 19, Jan. 26, Feb. 2, Feb. 9, Feb. 16, Feb. 23, March 1, March 15, and March 22. Contact Rahel at 554-1459, 886-1633 or email betenu@nii.net.

• **TRAVEL TO CHINA: FROM PREPARATION TO IMMERSION** will be presented by photographer and tour operator Richard Ferland at the Nashua Public Library on Thus., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. Ferland will offer information on traveling to China, Chinese phrases, how to interact with the locals, and his slideshow will feature his award-winning photographs of the country. Call 589-4610.

MUSEUMS & TOURS

• **Canterbury Shaker Village**
288 Shaker Road, Canterbury,
783-9511, shakers.org
• **McAuliffe-Shepard**

Discovery Center

2 Institute Dr., Concord, starhop.com, 271-7831

• **Currier Museum of Art**
150 Ash St., Manchester,
669-6144, currier.org

• **Laconia Historical & Museum Society**
in the Laconia Public Library at
695 Main St. in Laconia,
527-1278, laconiahistorical.org

• **Langer Place**
55 South Commercial St.,
Manchester, 626-4388,
langerplace.com

• **Lee Scouting Museum & Library**
571 Holt Ave. in Manchester,
669-8919, scoutingmuseum.org

• **Manchester City Hall**
One City Hall Plaza, off Hanover
St. in Manchester, 624-6455

• **Millyard Museum/Manchester**
Historic Association
200 Bedford St., 622-7531,
manchesterhistoric.org

• **New England Synthesizer Museum**
6 Vernon St., Nashua, 881-8587,
synthmuseum.com

• **New Hampshire Aviation Museum**
South Perimeter Road,
Manchester, 669-4820, nhahs.org
• **New Hampshire Snowmobile Association Museum**
Beaver Brook State Park Museum
Complex off Route 28,
Allentown, 648-2304,
nhsnowmobilemuseum.com
• **Museum of N.H. Natural History**
6 Eagle Square in Concord,
228-6688, nhhistory.org

• **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**
18 Highlawn Road, Warner,

456-2600, indianmuseum.org

• **Seacoast African American Cultural Center**

135 Daniel St. in Portsmouth,
430-6027, saacc-nh.org

• **SEE Science Center**
200 Bedford St., Manchester,
669-0400, see-sciencecenter.org

• **Speare Museum**
5 Abbott St., Nashua, 883-0015,
nashuahistoricalsociety.org

• **U.S. Marconi Museum**
14 N. Amherst St. in Bedford,
472-8312, marconiusa.org

Exhibits

• **"ALONG THE SILK ROAD"**

Mariposa Museum & World Culture Center, 26 Main St., Peterborough, 924-4555, through early January. The exhibit focuses on the Silk Road, the great trade route that stretched from China to Turkey and into Europe. The exhibition emphasizes "the Stans," formerly republics of the Soviet Union and now independent countries, as well as Iraq, Iran and Afghanistan. Programs will focus not only on the historical importance of the Silk Road and the great cultures that grew up along it but on the significance of this region today. See www.mariposamuseum.org.

• **"SEASONS OF CHANGE" SEE** Science Center, 50 Dow St., Manchester, 669-0400, through Jan. 8, 2012. This interactive exhibit provides visitors an opportunity to see how climate affects New England's seasonal traditions. Using graphics, multi-media displays, artifacts and interactive components, the exhibit addresses many areas of New England life including agriculture, forestry, fishing and recreation. Visitors of all ages are introduced to the challenges faced by farmers, fishermen and others. Visitors can engage in testing how ocean acidity levels affect

sea-life, observing how CO2 concentrations affect invasive species and more. Visit www.see-sciencecenter.org.

• **A TREE'S MANY BRANCHES: THE LEGACY OF LACONIA'S JEWETT FAMILY** Laconia Public Library, 695 Main St., Laconia, 524-4775, through December. This exhibit, presented by the Laconia Historical Society, accompanies the recent publication of *The Day Book of Jeremiah Smith Jewett*. This exhibit is a tribute to the family and will feature items from LHMS' large Jewett Collection. Go to www.LaconiaHistorical.org.

Tours

• **ANHEUSER-BUSCH BREWERY** 221 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 595-1202, budweisertours.com, offers free tours daily between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Free samples available to guests 21 and older.

• **CLYDESDALE CAMERA DAY** at Anheuser-Busch (221 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 595-1202, www.budweisertours.com) on the first Saturday of every month from 1 to 3 p.m. Bring a camera and pose for a photo with a world-famous Budweiser Clydesdale.

• **EDUCATIONAL FARM AT JOPPA HILL** (174 Joppa Hill Road, 472-4724, Bedford) is a nonprofit organization operated exclusively for the charitable and educational purposes of increasing public awareness of sustainable agriculture. Farm tours are given daily to children and adults. Classes in sustainable organic agriculture and horsemanship lessons are available.

• **PORTSMOUTH BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL** in Portsmouth, NH, is a self-guided walking tour through neighborhoods where Portsmouth's

black residents lived, worked, prayed and celebrated. Call 603-431-2768 or go to pbhtrail.org.

• **SEGWAY TOURS** Segway of Manchester, 42 Hanover St., Manchester, 218-8150, offers a variety of tours on a Segway PT. Currently all standard tours are offered at two tickets for \$99. Or choose the \$99 Ghost Hunting Tour, the \$79 Cemetery Tour or the \$69 Ghost Tour. Some tours are offered daily at 10 a.m., 1 p.m. and 4 p.m. this fall. E-mail info@SegwayofManchester.com or call 218-8150.

• **TOURS OF THE MUSIC HALL** will be held on the first Wednesday of every month through June, 5:30-6:45 p.m. at the Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Visit www.themusichall.org or call 436-2400.

NATURE & GARDENING

• **Amoskeag Fishways**
6 Fletcher St., Manchester,
626-FISH, amoskeagfishways.org

• **Beaver Brook Association**
117 Ridge Road, Hollis,
465-7787, beaverbrook.org,

• **Charmingfare Farm**
Route 27, Candia, 483-5623,
visitthefarm.com

• **McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center**
2 Institute Drive, Concord,
271-STAR, starhop.com
• **Educational Farm at Joppa Hill**

174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford,
472-4724, theeducationalfarm.org

• **Friends of Stark Park**
North River Road, Manchester,
645-6700, friendsofstarkpark.org

• **Londonderry Trailways**
PO Box 389, Londonderry,
londonderrytrails.org

In the spotlight



Books for cheap

January is a month for great book deals at the library. The Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550) will be hosting a Bag Book Sale on Saturday, Jan. 28, from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The sale is set to be one of the best bargains of the year: buy books for children and young adults, VHS tapes, DVDs, audiobooks, etc. for just \$5 per book bag. Contact Eileen A. Reddy at ereddy@manchesternh.gov, or call her at 624-6550 ext. 320.

And then the Merrimack Public Library (470 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack) will be holding a mid-winter book sale on Saturday, Jan. 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Sunday, Jan. 29, from 1 to 3 p.m. The library is currently seeking donations for children's books, current fiction, non-fiction, audio tapes, compact discs and DVDs for the sale. Donations will be accepted through Thurs., Jan. 26. Call 424-5021 or visit www.merrimack.lib.nh.us.

• Manchester Historic Association

129 Amherst St., 622-7531, manchesterhistoric.org

• Massabesic Audubon Center

26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045, nhudubon.org

• McLane Center

84 Silk Farm Road, Concord, 224-9909, nhudubon.org

• Peabody Mill

Environmental Center 66 Brook Rd., Amherst, 673-1141, pmec.org

• Seacoast Science Center

570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, seacoastsciencecenter.org

• Society for the Protection of NH Forests

224-9945, spnhf.org

Animals/insects/plants

• **PIZZA PARTY WITH THE PAINTED TURTLE** at the Amoskeag Fishways Learning Center (6 Fletcher St., Manchester) on Fri., Jan. 6, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Participants will eat pizza and meet animals. Admission is \$15 per family, which includes pizza. Advanced registration required; Call 626-3474 or visit amoskeagfishways.org.

• **CRAFTY CRITTERS OF THE CORAL REEF** will be featured as the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center's (2 Institute Drive, Concord) "Super Stellar Friday" on Fri., Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. Hear from Perrin Chick, Education Director of the Seacoast Science Center in Rye, NH, as he compares our local waters and critters to those down under. Learn about the animals that live in Australia's Great Barrier Reef and how coral reefs are formed. The observatory will be open from 7 to 10 p.m., an which there will be a free skywatch outside with the New Hampshire Astronomical Society, who will give personal telescope advice and assistance. Telescope viewing begins at 7 p.m. Call 271-7827, ext. 110.

• **BIRD BANDING OPEN HOUSE** on Sat., Jan. 7, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) allows visitors to drop in anytime during the morning to learn about common birds that are winter visitors, as well as why birds are banded. No charge. Visit www.nhnature.org or call 968-7194.

• **WINTER BIRDING EXCURSION** at the Squam lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness) on Sun., Jan. 22, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., is being held to search for the hardy bird species

that spend their winters along the N.H. and Mass. seacoast. Led by Science Center Executive Director Ian MacLeod. Through the day, visit Seabrook Harbor, the Salisbury Beach State Reservation and Plum Island to search for ducks, hawks, eagles, owls and more. Register by calling 968-7194 or emailing info@nhnature.org. Admission is \$30/member or \$40/non-member. Visit www.nhnature.org.

• WINTER IS FOR THE BIRDS!

is a presentation for pre-school students brought by the Amoskeag Fishways (6 Fletcher St., Manchester) on Wed., Jan. 25, from 10 to 11 a.m. or from 1 to 2 p.m. From the cardinal to the chickadee, lots of birds stay in New Hampshire during the winter time. Admission is \$5 per family, and advanced registration with payment is required. Call 626-3474 and visit amoskeagfishways.org.

• **ANIMAL TRACK WORKSHOP** will be held at the Little nature Museum on Sat, Feb. 18, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at the Community Room, Hopkinton Town Library, Contoocook (61 Houston Dr. Contoocook). Award-winning environmental educator Ruth Smith will present "Who Goes There? Identifying Animal Tracks and Signs" by teaching simple tricks in identifying clues left behind by wild neighbors. Program is free, but donations are appreciated. Call 746-6121, visit www.hopkintownlibrary.org. For museum information, visit www.littlenaturemuseum.org.

• VOLUNTEER TO HELP MANCHESTER'S WILDLIFE

at the Amoskeag Fishways (6 Fletcher St., Manchester) through January and February. Looking for wildlife monitoring for adults. No experience necessary. Call 626-3474.

Astronomy

• **TEEN NIGHT: CATCHING COSMIC RAYS IN A JAR** will be the McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center's (2 Institute Drive, Concord) "Super Stellar Friday" on Fri., Jan. 13, at 7 p.m. UNH research scientist Dr. Andrew Jordan will discuss how cosmic rays have revolutionized physics. Pizza and soda provided at no additional charge. Call 271-7827, ext. 110.

• **LITTLE EXPLORERS: OUR SOLAR SYSTEM** will take place at the McAuliffe-Shepard Discover Center (2 Institute Drive, Concord) on Thurs., Jan. 19, at 10 a.m. Learn about all the objects in our solar

system in this workshop and make a solar system mobile! For children 3 to 4 years old Child must be accompanied by adult. Child/adult combo is \$10, \$5 for each additional child/adult. Call 271-7827, ext. 110.

Hiking, hikes & walks

• **FULL MOON SNOWSHOE HIKE** on Sat., Jan. 7, and Sat., Feb. 4, from 7 to 9 p.m. at Beaver Brook Nature Center (117 Ridge Road, Hollis) for those who can walk for up to two hours at a moderate to moderately slow pace. Break out into the bright white world with a full moon in the winter night. Dress in layers. Cost is \$10 per person, which includes snowshoes or crampons. Call 465-7787 to register.

• **MLK DAY SNOWSHOE HIKE** at the Beaver Brook Nature Center (117 Ridge Road, Hollis) will take place on Mon., Jan. 16, from 10 to noon. Explore Wildlife Pond on Snowshoes. Cost is \$10 per person, including snowshoes and hot cocoa. Must be able to snowshoe for two hours on rolling terrain. Call 465-7787.

• **WINTER WILD WALKS** will be held Sat., Jan 14, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., Sun., Jan. 15, from 1 to 3 p.m., Sat., Jan 21, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., and Sun., Jan. 29, from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness). Be prepared to snowshoe. Register by calling 968-7194 or emailing info@nhnature.org. Costs \$12 for non-members. Visit www.nhnature.org.

• **TRAIL WALK: SNOWSHOEING AND WINTER TREE IDENTIFICATION** on Sat., Jan. 14, from 1 to 2:20 p.m. at the Fells Fells Historic Estate and Gardens at Lake Sunapee (456 Route 103A, Newbury). Members free, non-members pay site admission. No registration required. Call 603-763-4789 x 3 or visit www.thefells.org.

• **FAMILY SNOWSHOE WALK** on Sun., Feb. 26, from 1 to 2 p.m. at the Fells Fells Historic Estate and Gardens at Lake Sunapee (456 Route 103A, Newbury) invites families for a snowshoe walk to discover what animals do to cope with winter's snow and cold. Members free, nonmembers pay site admission. No registration required. Call 603-763-4789 x 3 or visit www.thefells.org.

Outdoors

• **INTRODUCTION TO FLY TYING** at the Manchester Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) on Sat., Feb. 11, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Winchell Room. NH Fishing Guide Jim Norton and certified "Let's Go Fishing" instructor Stan Jodziewicz will cover the tools, materials, threads and hooks required in fly tying, with hands-on sessions with the basic steps. Nymph, wet fly, streamer and dry fly samples. Registration required. Contact Steve Viggiano at sviggiano@manchesternh.gov or call 624-6550. Visit www.merrimacktu.org.

• **OUT AND ABOUT: WHEN LESS IS MORE** on Tues., Feb. 14, from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Fells Fells Historic Estate and Gardens at Lake Sunapee (456 Route 103A, Newbury) will allow children to learn about how to preserve Earth's resources. Activities and crafts. Families invited to bring gently-used toy to donate to local charity. Member child free, nonmembers \$5, caregivers free. Advance registration required. Call 603-763-4789 x 3 or visit www.thefells.org.



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TECHIE

Audio for everyone

Make your music sound bigger

By John Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com



Music is available in more forms than ever before. The compact disc, once the cutting-edge herald of a digital revolution, is now the stodgy hanger-on in a world of downloads

and streaming.

For audiophiles, CDs were the beginning of the end. Breaking sound up into 44,100 samples per second and removing the warmth of vinyl or hiss of cassettes took the soul out of music, making it too clean and sterile. Compressed MP3 files introduced “lossy” compression to save disk space and speed download times, and when instant streaming came along, sound quality degraded even more. Not that you could tell with the tinny laptop speakers or earbuds you started using.

Vinyl is making a comeback among enthusiasts, and larger hard drives and faster Internet connections are making compression less necessary. Those small speakers can’t fill a room very well, though, so the home stereo still has a role to play. It just needs a few different features than the one you bought 20 years ago.

It’s easy to spend thousands of dollars on individual components, premium cabling, and speaker cabinets constructed from shavings of prize orchids. If you’re shopping for that stuff, you likely know what you want. We’ll focus on more compact, cheaper systems that have everything but speakers in one box.

Firstly, iPod users: you’re lucky. Every manufacturer, even those with competing MP3 players of their own, makes systems with dedicated iPod connectors. Congratulations, you dominate the industry. For the rest of us, we need some other way to pipe our portable music into our stereos.

The most basic connection is an **auxiliary** in or **line in** port. This might be as simple

as a 3.5mm jack that connects directly to your player’s headphone port; it might even be called “MP3 In” and be right on the front of your system. Or it might be a more general aux input using a red and white pair of RCA connectors, in which case an adapter cable is all you need. Since portable music players without a headphone jack are a rare breed indeed, this will accommodate most of your needs — including a laptop music collection or Internet streaming. Just be prepared for all your other computer sounds to come through the speakers as well.

Some systems also have a **USB port** for playing music directly off a flash drive. This method will support certain MP3 players too, but only ones that support the Mass Storage protocol.

But who wants another device hanging off the stereo? What if you want to keep your phone conveniently in your pocket while its music plays in your living room? No problem, if your stereo has a **Bluetooth** or **Wi-Fi** input. It’ll suck your phone battery dry, but Bluetooth can stream songs digitally up to 30 feet away and Wi-Fi integrates into your existing wireless network. Depending on how sophisticated the stereo is, it might even display artist and title information. There’s no degradation of sound quality like there is over an analog cable, either.

You can even add Bluetooth capability to an existing stereo as long as it has either 3.5mm or RCA line in, and you have a spare power outlet. The **Belkin Bluetooth Music Receiver** gets that job done for about \$30. (Some reviews mention removing a bit of metal from inside the casing to improve its range. Whatever, your own risk.)

Models are constantly changing, so check your local store. You probably still want to be able to play CDs, too. For cassettes, records, 8-tracks and and wax cylinders, you decide what’s important to you.

Occasionally there’s music linked at twitter.com/CitizenjaQ.

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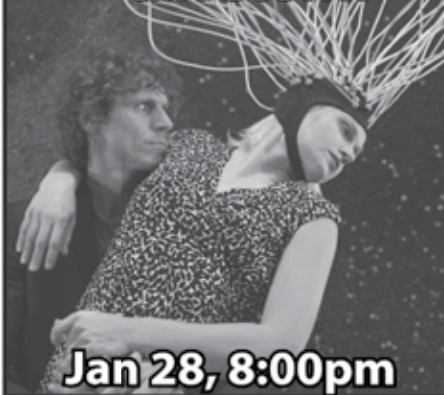
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Weekly Dish

Notes from the local food scene

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

• **Capital City dining on your cell phone:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, thebarleyhouse.com, has created a free smartphone app for Droid, Apple and Blackberry devices. The app allows the user to sign up for text notifications and also features beer information, menus, a calendar, a comment card and directions to the restaurant.

• **They're back!:** Bugaboo Creek Steakhouse, 218 S. River Road, Bedford, 625-2975, bugaboocreek.com, reopened on Dec. 16. The restaurant is open Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, from 11:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m., and Sunday, from noon to 10 p.m.

• **Do good and learn science in the Capital City:** The Barley House, 132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, thebarleyhouse.com, will host a bone marrow drive on Wednesday, Jan. 11, at 6 p.m. Light appetizers will be served. The restaurant will also host a Science Cafe about the science and sociology of polls and polling on Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 7 p.m.

• **A pairing on Elm Street:** Dancing Lion Chocolate will host a chocolate and wine pairing class at Vino Aromas, 997 Elm St., Manchester, on Thursday, Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. Four to six pairings will be discussed during the class, as will chocolates from different regions and their flavors. Tickets cost \$25. Call 625-4043.

• **More bread, less work:** A No-Knead Miracle Bread Workshop will be held in the Johnson Meeting Room of the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, on Tuesday, Jan. 24, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The free workshop will be run by baker Denali Delmar, who will demonstrate how to make homemade artisan bread. Participants will be given recipes to take home and samples of a variety of breads. Call to register or visit amherst.lib.nh.us.

• **Don't be left out:** Tickets are going fast to the Bellman's Cellar Select VIP portion of the 2012 Easter Seals of NH Winter Wine Spectacular, to be held at the Radisson Hotel, 700 Elm St., Manchester, on Thursday, Jan. 26, said Christine Hardy, Easter Seals of NH director of events and corporate relations. The tickets include access to a tasting area in which samples of 200 wines that retail for \$30 or more each will be doled out. VIP ticket holders should also expect to sample a \$300 wine and a chance to win a \$1,000 door prize from Bellman's Jewelers. The Bellman's Cellar Select tasting will run from 6 to 8 p.m., the night of the Spectacular. VIP ticket holders will also have access to the Grand Tasting, from 6 to 9 p.m. Ticket cost \$125 for the Bellman's Cellar Select tasting (\$65 for the Grand Tasting only) at eastersealsnh.org.

• **The year of the co-op:** Members of the Manchester Co-op, which is still in its early stages, will hold a party in celebration of

Continued on page 52

Memphis flavor

Milford gets a taste of barbecue

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Chuck Hall opted to open his restaurant, Memphis BBQ & Blues in Milford, on Dec. 20, thinking it would be a slow first week due to the proximity of the holidays. He was wrong. Hall sold out of 380 pounds of smoked meat by 7:30 p.m. on the eatery's opening day.

"We were having to make up menu items, but not a single person left unhappy," Hall said. The restaurant sold out of more than 800 pounds of meat over the next two days. Hall had 520 pounds of meat in the smoker on the morning of Dec. 23.

"The thing about barbecue is if you run out, you run out. You can't just throw another shrimp on the barbie," Hall said.

Hall, of Wilton, owned a construction company and built acoustic ceilings for the last two decades. He and his best friend of 35 years Marc Deshaies had discussed opening a bar or restaurant together since high school.

"Marc and I wanted a bar with some good food and ended up with a restaurant that has a cool bar," Hall said, adding that his wife Nadine is also a partner in the business. Her homemade fruit cobbler recipe is the only dessert option on the restaurant's menu.

The building they chose for the eatery was built as a private residence in 1906 and later served as a schoolhouse, Milford Coffee and the Santos-Dumont Cafe. The school's original chalkboard remains on the wall in the bar area of the restaurant. Hall also opted to keep the original pine door frames and the 116-year-old maple floors.

"She has a personality of her own," Hall said of the building. "It seems to be a sin to pull out parts of her that have been here so long."

Hall said he made it clear to the Milford Zoning Board of Adjustments in September that he would not change the character

of the building by adding a smokehouse onto its side but would instead blend it in to meet architectural standards.

"I've always loved this building," Hall said.

Hall hired 20 employees from a pool of what he said were "tons" of applicants. His head chef Ronnie Allen, a Memphis native, moved to the Granite State from Chicago to join the team at Memphis BBQ & Blues. Hall said a tear formed in his eye the first time he took a bite of Allen's pulled pork.

"It was so good. Real Memphis-style barbecue," Hall said, noting that Memphis-style barbecue boasts a sweet and smoky dry rub.

"With good Memphis barbecue you should just drizzle on the sauce, not just bury it," Hall said. "If you have to smother meat in sauce you screwed up and are trying to hide it."

All sauces and rubs are made in-house and all meats are delivered fresh daily to Memphis BBQ & Blues.

"We don't believe you can smoke anything that's been frozen," Hall said. "You need to smoke fresh meat."

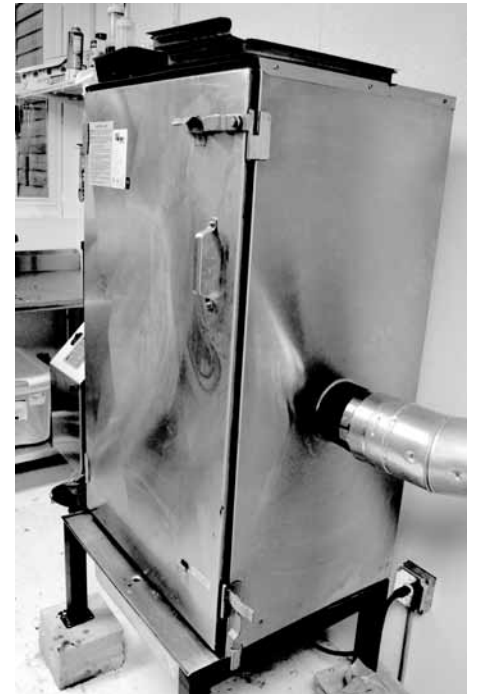
The pulled pork and brisket are smoked at the eatery for 14 hours, Hall said.

"People said we need more on our menu," he added. "There is no more unless you can find another animal to barbecue." In addition to the traditional four barbecue proteins — ribs, pulled pork, brisket and chicken — Hall's kitchen staff smokes its own salmon. "I had it yesterday for lunch," Hall said. "It's just ambrosia."

A limited menu of mostly sliders and sandwiches will be offered on Sundays so the kitchen staff can clean out the restaurant's two pellet smokers, Lil' Mama and Big Daddy.

Among the sides at Memphis BBQ are baked beans, corn bread, baked potato wedges and mac and cheese.

"You cannot have barbecue without mac and cheese," Hall said.



"Big Daddy," one of the pellet smokers at Memphis BBQ & Blues in Milford. Angel Roy photo.

Popular appetizers have emerged from the menu: the Memphis Suitcase (a baked potato stuffed with pulled pork and topped with melted cheese) and the Hot Links (two slow-smoked hot link pork sausages, made exclusively by Butcher Boy in Nashua). The wings on the restaurant's appetizer menu are not wings at all, Hall said, but thighs. "It's slow smoked meat that pulls off the bones," Hall said.

Hall plans to have live blues acts at the eatery two or three nights a week but assures customers that they will still be able to hear each other over the music.

"I want people to be able to have a conversation," he said. "If you want a concert, go to the Verizon [Wireless Arena]. If you want to come listen to blues, come here."

Memphis BBQ & Blues

770 Elm St., Milford, 672-3870

Hours: Sunday through Wednesday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., Thursday through Saturday, 11 a.m.-1 a.m.

Sweet secret

Find fanciful fillings at Cupcake Conspiracy

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

A black handlebar mustache nicely suits the sweet, not sinister, logo of a new Merrimack business opened by partners Lisa Lefebvre and her daughter, Stevia.

"It's a secret in Merrimack, so to speak," Lefebvre said of the duo's new business venture, Cupcake Conspiracy, which opened on the Daniel Webster Highway on Sept. 13.

"I've always baked, my whole life," Lefebvre said. "This just sounded like something fun to do."

Stevia Lefebvre, 20, attended the New England Culinary Institute for one year before taking on an internship at The Inn at Thorn Hill in Jackson, where she was training in pastry arts for 10 months.

"We were in a situation where we thought

it would be great to do something like this together," Lefebvre said, adding that she worked for the Boston Express Bus before starting her sweet new career. Lefebvre had initially planned to call the cupcake shop "Just a Bite" and sell only mini-cupcakes until Stevia told her just how many cupcakes they would have to bake to fill their shelves. The duo spent three months readying the 2,000-square-foot space for their venture, applying decals of cupcakes and mustaches to surfaces in the 12-seat dining area.

"This is nothing I had ever had in mind, but it's something good," Stevia Lefebvre said.

Flavors at Cupcake Conspiracy are developed and sold seasonally, with most creations inspired by things the duo likes to eat and drink and things that remind them of their childhoods, summer and holidays. All

cupcakes, sold for \$2.45 each, are baked and frosted daily at the shop.

"We have the capacity to bake all day long," Lefebvre said, noting that the shop will stick to its posted hours.

The mother-daughter team introduces a new flavor every Tuesday and hides a different filling in one cupcake among the batch. The lucky customer who ends up with the unique treat wins a half dozen cupcakes. The pair debuted a Strawberry Champagne cupcake (a champagne cupcake with raspberry filling, topped with champagne buttercream), on the last Tuesday of 2011. Other cupcake flavors on the menu that morning were Chocolate Chambord (a chocolate cupcake with raspberry filling, topped with raspberry buttercream), Red Velvet, Sugar Cookie (topped with brown sugar-cinnamon frosting), Gingerbread, Egg Nog (topped with eggnog

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- 100% whole-grain toast with 2 Tbsp. of peanut butter and a banana (4 minutes, 30 seconds)
- Dannon® Greek yogurt mixed with ground flaxseed and fresh berries — or you can mix ingredients in a blender for a yummy smoothie (5 minutes, 15 seconds)
- 2 scrambled eggs with Cabot® 50% Reduced Fat Cheddar Cheese with whole-wheat English muffin and a 6 oz. glass of orange juice (8 minutes, 45 seconds)

Lean Lunches:



Try packing your lunch the night before to keep your mornings less hectic.

- Tuna salad made with Hellmann's® Canola Mayonnaise, served on 100% whole-wheat bread with lettuce and tomato
- Baked sweet potato topped with fat-free sour cream and chives
- Green salad with skinless chicken breast, drizzled with olive oil-based dressing and topped with sliced almonds



- Cut-up veggies, such as carrots, cucumbers, bell peppers, celery and grape tomatoes, with hummus spread for dipping
- Steamed veggies sprinkled with 2 Tbsp. shredded Cabot cheese (look for steam-in-bag versions in fresh produce and frozen sections of the store)
- 1 cup of broth-based soup or bean chili with 6 Kashi crackers — use the Hannaford Guiding Stars® to help find soups with lower sodium levels

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- Roasted chicken with side salad and corn
- Mexican ground-turkey taco on lettuce wraps with diced tomatoes and guacamole

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BEDFORD

4 Jenkins Road (Note: Classes changed from Colby Court store.)
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• Join the Weight Loss Challenge: Friday, Jan. 6, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. No registration required.
• Simple Healthy Meal Planning for Weight Loss: Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. No registration required.

CONCORD

73 Fort Eddy Road
Programs run by Nutrition Coordinator Katy Magoon
• A New Year, a New You: Managing Weight Loss the Healthy Way: Thursday, Jan. 12, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Call 228-2060 to register.
• Simple Healthy Meal Planning Ideas for Weight Loss: Friday, Jan. 13, 3 to 6 p.m. No registration required.

MANCHESTER/HOOKSETT

79 Bicentennial Drive
Programs run by Nutrition Coordinator Marilyn Mills
• Simple Healthy Meal Planning Ideas for Weight Loss: Monday, Jan. 9 from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. No registration required.
• Nutrition Bootcamp for Parents and Kids: Wednesdays starting Jan. 11, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Call 644-2106 to register.

LONDONDERRY

6 Hampton Drive
Programs run by Nutrition Coordinator Katy Magoon
• Gearing Up for Weight Loss in the New Year: Friday, Jan. 6, 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. No registration required.
• A New Year, a New You: Managing Weight Loss the Healthy Way: Wednesday, Jan. 11, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Call 421-0921 to register.

MANCHESTER/EAST SIDE

859 Hanover St.
Programs run by Nutrition Coordinator Marilyn Mills
• Simple Healthy Meal Planning for Weight Loss: Friday, Jan. 13, 1 to 3 p.m. No registration required.
• Nutrition Boot Camp for Adults, Week 1: Friday, Jan. 6, 11 a.m. to noon. Call 624-4442 to register.

MANCHESTER/SOUTH

201 John Devine Drive
Programs run by Nutrition Coordinator Marilyn Mills
• Simple Healthy Meal Planning for Weight Loss: Thursday, Jan. 12, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. No registration required.
• Newtrends and New Trends Healthy Shopping Tour: Thursday, Jan. 5 or Thursday, Jan. 19, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Call 626-4567 to register.

NASHUA

175 Coliseum Avenue
Programs run by Nutrition Coordinator Susan O'Keefe
• Simple Healthy Meal Planning for Weight Loss: Tuesday, Jan. 10, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. No registration required.
• Gluten Free Cooking Demo, Recipes for Weight Control: Wednesday, Jan. 18 from 6 to 7 p.m. Call 889-3700 to register.

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FOOD



Frosting shots at Cupcake Conspiracy in Merrimack. Angel Roy photo.

duo decided to offer thimble-sized shots the day's frosting offerings.

"The nice thing about our frosting is that it complements the cupcakes nicely and is not too sweet," Lefebvre said, adding that more adults order the sweet shots than children.

Customers can also pre-order coffee cake, banana bread and cranberry bread.

"She loves to bake bread," Stevia Lefebvre said of her mother. "Her banana bread is top of the line."

The Lefebvres plan to explore their options of delivering in the vicinity of the shop and allowing customers to order their cupcakes for catering events. They also plan to rent out their pale yellow-walled dining area for meetings and functions.

"It's still a learning curve," Lefebvre said. "We're only three months old."

Cupcake Conspiracy

583 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 262-5619, cupcakeconspiracy.comcast-biz.net

Hours: Tuesday through Friday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.. Closed Sunday and Monday.

buttercream), Chocolate and Vanilla.

The Red Velvet cupcake was originally named The Gertrude, after Lefebvre's mother, but Lefebvre opted to instead bring in names that people would recognize.

A few more flavors that have been offered at Cupcake Conspiracy in its first month of business have been the Bananarama (a banana cupcake with a caramel toffee center, topped with honey-cinnamon frosting), Miss Piggy (a maple cupcake made with bacon bits, topped with candied bacon and maple buttercream), Wake N' Cake (a chocolate espresso cupcake with mocha frosting), Tekilyah (a tequila-infused cupcake with salted tequila frosting) and Mountain Dew (a Mountain Dew-infused cupcake with Mountain Dew frosting). "It tastes like you're biting into Mountain Dew," Lefebvre said of the shop's green-colored cupcake. "There is no fizz, but it gives you that feeling."

Customers are asked to write down their favorite flavors, and the ones they would like to see return to the shop, on a piece of paper attached to a clipboard on the shop's counter. Flavors for January are still being developed but Lefebvre said to expect a sugar-free cupcake, made with stevia — the natural sweetener — in the near future.

The bottom shelf of the glass bakery case is always filled with petite versions of the shop's sweets — cake pops and frosting shots.

The cake pops are offered in chocolate and vanilla flavors, the batter mixed with frosting and rolled into a ball before being rolled in such toppings as chocolate sprinkles and toffee bits. "They're little bites that are great for parties," Lefebvre noted.

When compliments began piling up about the frosting made at the shop, the

A taste of summer

Tilton gets a winter market

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Joan O'Connor was handed the keys to a vacant 12,000-square-foot Tilton building in October, tasked with bringing a winter farmers market to the Lakes Region in January.

"It's been a roller coaster but I love the process," O'Connor said. "It's really falling into place so nicely."

O'Connor has been booking vendors, advertising the market and working with building owner Dennis Gaudet to nail down all logistics related to the Tilton Winter Farmers Market, which will open to the public on Saturday, Jan. 7. The market will be held at 67 E. Main St. (the former Agway building) in Tilton, every Saturday through March, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

While the Lakes Region is new territory for O'Connor, this is not her first winter farmers market. She most recently operated the Concord Winter Farmers Market for two years. O'Connor said she had been holding out for the right location when she decided to start a new area winter market.

"Two vendors called me and said, 'Joan, there is this building up in Tilton' ... I looked at it and I was like: holy smokes," O'Connor said of the three-room facili-



Joan O'Connor (posing with her dog, Finn) organized the first Tilton Winter Farmers Market. The market will open Jan. 7. Courtesy photo

ty that boasts a glass-front greenhouse and storage space. Sure enough, the sign on the building said "for rent or lease," but when O'Connor called the real estate agency, they said they would not be able to arrange a short-term lease. She would have to talk to Gaudet, who purchased the building at the end of the summer and also owns Auto-Serv of Tilton, across the street from the market building.

When O'Connor met with Gaudet to discuss her plans to fill the space with local vendors, he "got it," she said. "He said, 'Let's go for it.'"

O'Connor has since been able to book 35 vendors for the new winter market (16 of which had worked with her at the Concord Winter Farmers Market) and has a

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waiting list of interested vendors. Among the vendors signed on for the first year are Brookford Farm in Rollinsford (root vegetables, dairy, meat, bread), Heart Song Farm in Gilmanton (goat cheese and goat meat), Hobbit Hill Farm in Wentworth (tomatoes) and Two Sisters Garlic in Canterbury (garlic and garlic jellies).

"For these farmers this is their livelihoods ... this is not a flea market," she said.

O'Connor may add more vendors to the event as the market season progresses. All participating vendors must provide proof of product liability insurance.

O'Connor said the reason she takes on so much responsibility for organizing local farmers markets is in part to maintain consistent involvement in local foods movements but also to give farmers in the state an outlet to sell the wares they have worked hard to produce.

"They're so busy farming, feeding the pigs in the morning and putting their kids on the school bus," she said. "They need to focus on their job and I need to focus on this aspect."

"Come to the market, set up a table, make a living," she added. "That's the reward."

O'Connor has used much of her own savings account as a start-up budget for the

market.

"I don't have the overhead of a 100-acre farm, animals," she said. "I can afford to do this ... I like helping the farmers, the vendors."

AutoServ will provide a police detail to control traffic. The family-owned car dealership has also committed to sanding and salting the parking lots and heating the building, O'Connor said. Gaudet is also allowing all participating vendors to keep their booths set up in the space for the season so they will only have to bring in their goods each week.

O'Connor said her goal is to be able to organize and run a year-round farmers market such as are offered in other parts of the country.

"This [Tilton Winter Farmers Market] is a model. I can do [farmers markets] anywhere," O'Connor said. "I can prove it. In two months, here's your market."

Tilton market

The Tilton Winter Farmers Market will be held at 67 E. Main St., Tilton, every Saturday through March, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visit tiltonwinterfarmersmarket.com for a full list of vendors

Weekly Dish

continued from page 48

the 2012 International Year of the Co-op at Brookside Church, 2013 Elm St., Manchester, on Thursday, Jan. 26, at 6 p.m. The event will include interactive stations to share with members and future members the importance of cooperative markets, and opportunities for members to create videos and snapshots of themselves in a co-op themed photo booth. The party is free and open to the public. RSVP at manchesterfoodcoop.coop.

• **Dine at the winery:** Flag Hill Winery & Distillery, 297 N. River Road, Lee, 659-2949, flaghill.com, will host a Heritage Vineyard Dinner on Saturday, Jan. 28, at 6 p.m. The four-course meal will feature a choice of ragout of mushrooms in puff pastry or Hungarian paprika spiced cauliflower soup and a wedge salad. Sautéed beef medallions with portobello mushrooms and cider-braised chicken will be offered as the entree selections. Chocolate ice cream will be served for dessert. The

dinner costs \$36 and includes a wine tasting and tour. Reservations are required.

• **Local bar gives back:** Joker's Sports Bar & Bistro, 1279 S. Willow St., Manchester, 935-9947, nhvegas.com, will give customers a 10-percent discount on their bill every Monday night and also donate 15 percent to the charity of the customer's choosing, if they print out and bring in a Community Charity Night flyer. Call the Bistro for a list of participating charities (the New Hampshire Food Bank is one of them).

• **Boozy bread:** Great Harvest Bread Company, 2 Sunapee St., Nashua, 881-4422, greatharvestnashua.com, is now serving freshly baked loaves of bread made with Peak Organic ales on Fridays and Saturdays. Owner Jeremy St. Hilaire said they sell out every week so be sure to call ahead.

Food Listings

Winter markets

• **CONCORD** at Cole Gardens, 430 Loudon Road in Concord, some Saturdays starting with Sat., Jan. 7, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See www.colegardens.com.

• **DERRY** at the Derry Recreation/Vets Hall, 31 W Broadway, Derry, the first and third Sundays November through March from noon to 4 p.m. See www.derry-nh.org.

• **EPPING** 16 Main St. in Epping, the first Friday of each month from November through April, 6:30 to 9 p.m. Call 642-8747.

• **HOOKSETT** at White Birch Brewing, 1339 Hooksett Road in Hooksett, on Saturdays from noon to 3 p.m.

• **MILFORD** at Milford Town Hall Auditorium, 1 Union Square in Milford, on some Saturdays per month through May from 9 a.m. to noon: Jan. 7, Jan. 21; Feb. 18; March 3; March 17; April 14, April 21; May 5, and May 9. See www.milfordnhfarmersmarket.com.

• **NEWMARKET** at Carpenter's Olde English Greenhouse, 220 S. Main St. in Newmarket, the third Saturday of the month from October to April.

• **RAYMOND** at Lamprey River School, 33 Old Manchester Road, on Saturdays, Jan. 21, Feb. 18 and March 17, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• **SALEM** at United Methodist Church on Pleasant Street on Sundays Jan. 15, Jan. 29, Feb. 5, Feb.

19 and March 18, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Visit saalemfarmersmarket.com

• **SEACOAST EAT LOCAL** starts on Nov. 20 and alternates between Wentworth Greenhouses and Rollinsford and Exeter high schools. Visit seacoasteatlocal.org/winterfarmersmarkets/ for a full schedule.

• **TILTON** at 67 E. Main St., every Saturday from January through March, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See tiltonwinterfarmersmarket.com.

• **WE ARE ONE FARMERS MARKET** at Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 118 Center Road in Weare, Fridays through March 30, 3 to 6:30 p.m. See weare1farmersmarket.org.

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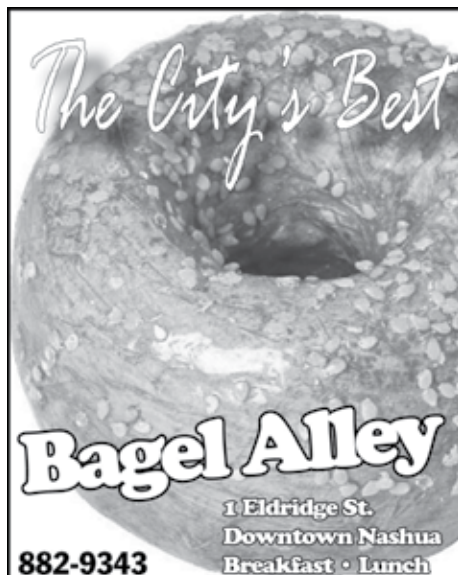
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Port is sweet wine with added alcohol, thus the term “fortified,” generally bringing it to 20 percent alcohol. It is produced all over the world and primary consumed as a cordial or after-dinner drink. Though there are a few kinds of port; today we focus on the two most well-known, ruby and tawny. These are very nice on a cold blustery day and are served at room temperature.

Our first wine is a 10-year-old tawny port from Portugal called **Warre's Otima 10** (\$16.99). The port is rusty red with an almost leathery look to it. The smell is sweet, tinged with raisins and a bit of ruggedness (if that is scent). For flavors we found prunes, tobacco, earth and leather.



The port is very full with a slight bite from the 20 percent alcohol. It's really very nice and would work well by itself or with a bit of cheese.

Our second wine is a ruby port from Portugal called **Fonseca Porto Bin no. 27 Finest Reserve** (\$12.74).

The color is inky red, a very dark ruby. For nose we got hints of prunes. For flavors we found raisins, prunes and tobacco. This port was on the sweeter side but it still managed to be a bit dry. Perfect for a nightcap or as a dessert replacement when trying to drop those holiday pounds.

Each week in “Red, White & Green,” two wine-lovers look at red and white wines, none over \$20 (and most under \$15), in an attempt to find some great bottles for good prices. All prices are according to the state liquor store (nh.liquor.state.nh.us) unless otherwise stated.

Drink Listings

Breweries/Distilleries

- **ANHEUSER-BUSCH** 221 DW Hwy, Merrimack. Complimentary tours include a visit to the Clydesdale Hamlet, home of the world-famous Budweiser Clydesdales. Open daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 595-1202.
- **ELM CITY BREWING COMPANY** Colony Mill Marketplace, 222 West St., Keene, 355-3335, www.elmcitybrewing.com. Restaurant, brewery and pub, open Mon.-Thurs., 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m. to midnight; Sunday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- **THE FLYING GOOSE BREW PUB & GRILLE** 40 Andover Road in New London, 526-6899, flyinggoose.com.

• **IncrediBREW/ GRAPE TIME**, 112 DW Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, grapetimewinery.com (call for class schedule, tastings)

• **ITALIAN OASIS RESTAURANT & BREWERY** 106 Main St. in Littleton, 444-6695.

• **MARTHA'S EXCHANGE** 185 Main St. in Nashua, 883-8781, marthas-exchange.com.

• **MILLY'S TAVERN** 500 Commercial St. in Manchester, 625-4444, millystavern.com.

• **MOAT MOUNTAIN SMOKE HOUSE & BREWING COMPANY** 3378 White Mountain Highway, North Conway, 356-6381, moatmountain.com.

• **THE PORTSMOUTH BREWERY** 56 Market St., Portsmouth, www.portsmouthbrewery.com, 603-431-1115. Free tours Thurs., Fri., & Sat. at 3 p.m.

• **REDHOOK BREWERY** 35 Corporate Drive, Pease Tradeport, Portsmouth, www.redhook.com, produces Redhook ales and features the Cataqua Public House offering brews and a pub menu. Tours offered Monday and Tuesday at 2 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday at noon, 1, 3 and 4 p.m.; Friday and Saturday every hour on the hour from noon to 4 p.m.; Sunday every hour on the hour from 1 to 4 p.m.

• **SEVEN BARREL BREWERY** 5 Airport Road in West Lebanon, 298-5566.

• **SMUTTYNOSE** 225 Heritage Ave., Portsmouth, smuttnose.com, 436-4026. Free tours Friday at 3 p.m. and Saturday at 11 a.m.

• **TUCKERMAN BREWING COMPANY** 64 Hobbs St., Conway, 447-5400, www.tuckermanbrewing.com, offers tours every Saturday at 3 p.m.

• **WHITE BIRCH BREWING** 1339 Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 244-8593, www.whitebirchbrewing.com. Open daily.

• **WOODSTOCK INN BREWERY** 135 Main St., North Woodstock, 745-3951, woodstockin-brewery.com.

Classes/workshops on wine/beer making

• **HAPPY NEW BEERS** will be held at IncrediBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, incredbrew.com, on Fri., Jan. 6. The cost is \$35 and reservations are required.

• **WINEFEST** will be held at IncrediBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, incredbrew.com, on Fri., Jan. 13, at 6 p.m. The cost is \$60 (includes six bottles of wine) and reservations are required.

• **DARK AND STORMY NIGHT BREWFEST** will be held at IncrediBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, incredbrew.com, on Tues., Jan. 24, at 6 p.m. The cost is \$60 (includes two cases of beer) and reservations are required.

• **ABE'S ALEFEST** will be held at IncrediBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, 891-2477, incredbrew.com, on Sat., Feb. 11, at 11:30 a.m. The cost is \$35 (includes a variety case of beer) and reservations are required.

Classes/workshops on beer/wine tasting

• **RHONE MASTER COURSE:**

A Grape Affair in Portsmouth (433-0160, agrapeaffair.com), will offer an eight-week Rhône Master-Level certificate program through the French Wine Society. The course will include eight weeks of online study (15 live webinars conducted by wine experts) and an opportunity for a live course review and tasting with Roz Angoff, A Grape Affair educator and certified Rhône Master, on Sun., April 1, from 1 to 4 p.m. The exam will be administered on Sun., April 22. The course costs \$260 (\$410 with exam). Visit agrapeaffair.com to register.

• **WINENOT BOUTIQUE** 170 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com, offers six-week courses on different subjects related to wine. Sign up for all six classes or for individual sessions.

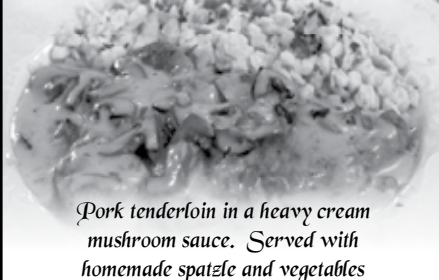
• **WINE SOCIETY** (650 Amherst St. #9 in Nashua, 883-4114; www.winesociety.us) offers classes for wine-lovers of all levels. New sessions start every few months. Call for upcoming schedule.

Special wine tastings

• **MURDER MYSTERY** Zorvino Vineyards, 226 Main St., Sandown, 887-8463, zorvino.com, will host “A Fateful Family Affair,” a Zorvino Murder Mystery will be held on Sat., Jan. 21, at 6 p.m., and the \$30 ticket price will include a signed book and light appetizers. The tasting room will be open during the event. Reservations are required.

• **WINTER WINE SPECTACULAR**, a fundraiser for Easter Seals NH, will be held Thurs., Jan. 26, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Radisson in downtown Manchester. Sample hundreds of wines and enjoy eats from local restaurants. Tickets to the grand tasting cost \$65 per person. Tickets to the grand tasting plus the Bellman's Cellar Select room (which features higher end wines and runs from 6 to 8 p.m.) cost \$125 per person. See nh.easterseals.com for tickets.

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POP CULTURE

**MUSIC, BOOKS,
GAMES, COMICS,
MOVIES, DVDS,
TV AND MORE**

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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events. To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Lisa Parsons at lparkers@hippopress.com. To get your author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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POP CULTURE:

CDS

Steafán Hanvey & the Honeymoon Junkies, *Steafán Hanvey & the Honeymoon Junkies* self-released, Oct. 24



This record has been around for a few years and was just recently released by Hanvey in the States, where he's been holed up, mainly in New England, patiently collecting positive reviews, in which this will number, and not just because the guy sings the way he looks: geeky and gaunt in his Chullo hat, but still adamantly masculine. He's an Irishman who's retained a goofily reverent, old-school sense of chivalry, as "My Woman" points to; you want to dope-slap him but have him get the girl by

the same measure. This isn't to say he's a total dweeb, just someone whose Marshall stack hurts his ears when its volume's set to 2 (he actually solos — quite nicely — for a bit and pans it around the mix as if he were engineering a Procol Harum B-side, which is another reason you can't hate the guy), eventually emerging song- and sound-wise as a hybrid of Augie Marsh, Jeff Buckley and Nick Cave. This won't set the world on fire through its very agreeable subtlety, but at this point, what could? **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

Pree, *Folly* Paper Garden Records, Oct. 18



High-school-band-recital quirk-folk colored with culturally current moonbat-chick vocals. Guitarist/singer May Tabol, fresh off a couple of years touring with Washington, D.C., Arcade Fire-wannabes Le Loup, does things differently than her peers, her fluttery-eyed weirdo Feist-vs.-Bjork blowing dandelion puffs over Tori Amos-like piano in "Lemon Tree," for one thing. Vanessa DeGrassi's amateurish flute passages on opening track "Songs of Promise" and the antebellum hayloft

honesty throughout all of "Old Form" signal a willingness to go full-out-hippie and lose the suburban kids, which is always great (a spooky-ghost musical-saw pops up to add depth, if you weren't yet convinced of Talbol's boldness of vision). Overall, though, the sound still flirts with what any marketing hack with half an imagination might whip out to soundtrack smartphone commercials aimed at echo boomers: lonely, flighty Submarines-unpluggedness. **A-** — *Eric W. Saeger*



Playlist

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• My New Year's resolution? "Be nice!" Hmm, what's this? **David Crowder** is like Justin Bieber with a weird beard and child-ish wise-guy MySpace comments, but he is also the Tim Tebow of weird-beard rockers, always sounding off worshipfully, for the Lord. His band hated being called The David Crowder Band, because, you know, whatever, so now they're just David Crowder Band, or, as they actually prefer, David Crowder*Band, because asterisks are cool and the word "the" isn't. OK? So with that, before I actually explode like Scanners due to all the snark I'm holding back, they had planned to break up two years ago, last Wikipedia knew, but they didn't disband, I guess, and so [UNG-HH, KILL] they have a new album out next week [IF YOU LOVE CRUMMY GLEEMUSIC, URK, HULK SMASH] called "Give Us Rest," so you should be psyched, like me!

• But forget that noise, if you want some genuine old-time religion music in this year of apocalypse, um, I mean "economic rebounding," you can't go wrong with the new **Charlie Haden** album *Come Sunday*, which features the famed jazz bassist's final collaboration with his main homes, pianist **Hank Jones**, who died in 2010 at the age of 91. Includes some Christmas stuff along with "Bringing in the Sheaves," "Nearer my God to Thee," etc.

• Apparently some of you went to see *Mission: Impossible — Ghost Protocol* against your better judgment, but I'm not here to judge that, just inform you that the **soundtrack** to this nonsense hyperactive 3-D Sonic-the-Hedgehog method-acting-fest will be out next week. It was done by **Michael Giacchino**, who did the music for Cloverfield and the awesome Star Trek movie from a couple of years ago, so he's OK by me as long as he isn't accidentally adopted by that bored and deliriously wealthy hobbit Tom Cruise.

• Famous singing witch lady **Stevie Nicks** releases *The Low-down* next week, but no one seems to know what it actually is, aside from one British blog that says it's a bunch of interviews scattered throughout her career. I think they're right, it's a bunch of interviews, because the "titles" sound like subjects of blathered tripe from an insanely rich person, like for example "Fifty and No Limitations," in which, I'll bet you anything, she sounds off on how attractive and hip 50-somethings are, especially 50-year-old (actually 63 now) sexy ladies who have vast underground lairs that are guarded by talking monitor lizards and stocked with frozen dinners of roasted centaur patties, whatever, stuff we already just know, so boring!

— *Eric W. Saeger*

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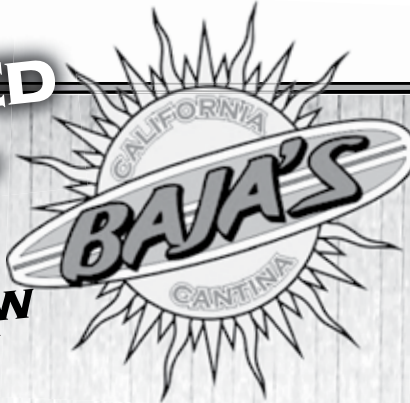
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POP CULTURE:

POP

Alright for fighting

Reality stars get a little action in

By Adam Coughlin
acoughlin@hippopress.com

Have you ever watched an episode of reality television and felt an urge to punch the star in the face? Then you are in luck. Reality Star Fight Night is coming to Concord and although you can't do the punching yourself, watching someone else do it can be equally satisfying.

On Friday, Jan. 13, stars from *The Real World*, *I Love Money* and the *Bad Girl's Club* will strap on the gloves (the women will be wearing over-sized gloves) and compete in three one-minute rounds of boxing. The scheduled match ups include local boy Greg Avila (*Love Games*) taking on Chi Chi Mathena from *Daisy of Love*, Jen Buonagurio, fighting her cast mate from *Bad Girl's Club*, Kate Squillace. *Real World: Las Vegas* star Leroy Garrett will challenge *Love Game's* Benz. With both weighing more than 200 lbs., this is the heavyweight fight of the night. Although all of these match ups are subject to change. There will also be a bunch of under card match ups. If that isn't enough, the fights will be refereed by wrestling legend Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake of WWE fame.

"There is a fantastic human interest angle with these fights," said Eric Hansen, owner/operator of Dark Tower Entertainment and executive producer of Dark Tower TV, which is headquartered in Nashua. "The average person feels as if they know these reality stars."

Five years ago, Hansen started promoting events at local bars. Over time he hooked up with a friend in Philadelphia who was putting on celebrity boxing matches. Since then Hansen has been trying to get one of the fights closer to home. He has made good on his promise.

"In reality television there definitely seems to be good guys and bad guys," Hansen said. "We try to play up these relationships. Sometimes these characters have fights and arguments on the show, which is perfect for the night."

At the Capitol Center there will be two screens near the ring, where Hansen will play footage explaining the rivalries between the stars. Like the WWE, Hanse-nuses these story lines to add excitement to the fights. He said he isn't sure whether the personas of these celebrities are real or are played up by producers but he said most of the performers are honest with themselves



Micky Ward and Dicky Eklund are scheduled to be special guests.

and market the angle.

Though the fights aren't long, Hansen said the celebrities take the action seriously. Many will be trained by celebrity trainer Dicky "The Fighter" Eklund, who was portrayed in an Oscar-winning performance by Christian Bale in *The Fighter*. Eklund's brother, Micky Ward (portrayed by Mark Wahlberg in the same movie), will also be on hand as a celebrity judge unless there are scheduling conflicts, according to Hansen.

Hansen said many of the celebrities use the boxing events as a chance to get back in the limelight. He said when the phone stops ringing, these celebrities will try anything to get back in the public eye. The boxing matches give them that opportunity.

Hansen films all his encounters with celebrities, whether they be at boxing events or promotional appearances. That footage, along with shorts he films with the celebrities when he has them for other events, went into a season of shows, that aired on MYTV New England. He said changes at that station have led to uncertainty about a second season but Hansen is already cultivating great footage for wherever it airs.

Hansen has been able to achieve all this without leaving Nashua, where he grew up and went to school. He said it is an advantageous location as it affords access to Boston, Manchester and Concord.

He also said it is nice to get his coffee from the same people who have been serving it to him for the past 25 years.

Reality Stars Fight Night

When: Friday, Jan. 13, at 8 p.m.

Where: Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, ccanh.com

Tickets: Cost \$55 for VIP Tickets; \$25 for orchestra/balcony

POP CULTURE:

BOOKS

BOOK & LECTURE LISTINGS

Libraries

• **Amherst Town Library**
14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us

• **Bedford Public Library**
3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford 472-3023, bedford.lib.nh.us

• **Concord Public Library**
45 Green St., 225-8670, www.concordpubliclibrary.net

• **Derry Public Library**
64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-6140, derry.lib.nh.us

• **Goffstown Public Library**

2 High St., Goffstown, 497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us

• **Hollis Social Library**
2 Monument Sq., Hollis, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us

• **Hooksett Public Library**
1701B Hooksett Rd., Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org

• **Manchester City Library**
405 Pine St. (main branch) and 76 N. Main St. (West branch), 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us

• **Mt. Kearsarge Indian Museum**
18 Highlawn Road, Warner, 456-2600, indianmuseum.org

• **Nashua Public Library**
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610, nashualibrary.org

• **Rodgers Memorial Library**
194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org

• **Tucker Free Library**
31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471, tuckerfreelibrary.org

• **Wadleigh Memorial Library**
49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us

• **Wilton Public Library**
7 Forest Road, Wilton, 654-2581, wiltonlibrarynh.org

POP CULTURE:

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Bookstores

• **Barnes & Noble**
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• **Double Midnight Comics
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669-9636, dmcomics.com

• **Gibson's Bookstore**
27 South Main St., Concord,
224-0562,
gibsonsbookstore.com

• **MainStreet Bookends**
16 E. Main St., Warner,
456-2700,
mainstreetbookends.com

• **River Run Books**
Portsmouth,
431-2100, riverrunbookstore.com

• **Toadstool Bookshop**
586 Nashua St., Milford,
673-1734, toadbooks.com.

Other

• **Manchester Historic Association**
200 Bedford St., 622-7531,
manchesterhistoric.org

• **New Hampshire Humanities Council**
19 Pillsbury St., Concord,
224-4071, www.nhnhc.org

• **New Hampshire State Library**
20 Park St., Concord,
www.nh.gov/nhsl

• **New Hampshire Writers' Project**
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Manchester, 314-7980,
nhwritersproject.org

• **Rivier College**
420 Main St., Nashua,
888-1311, rivier.edu.

• **UNH Manchester**
400 Commercial St., Manchester,
641-4101, unhm.unh.edu

Author events

• **MARY KATHRYN MACKLIN** will talk about her book *Women Fit at Fifty: A Guide for Living Long*, on Thurs., Jan. 5, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord; on Tues., Jan. 17, at 6:30 p.m. at Tucker Free Library, 31 Western Ave., Henniker, 428-3471; and on Wed., Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of Concord City Library (books available for sale and signing at the event).

• **FRAN CHAPMAN** will talk about *Fran Chapman and His Letters—Making Ripples in Wilder's Town* on Sat., Jan. 7, at 11 a.m. at Toadstool Bookshop in Peterborough. Chapman has been involved in the affairs of Peterborough, through volunteering in organizations and participating in local government, since moving to the town in 1965 and is well known to many through his passionate letters to the editors of local newspapers. This book collects some of his favorite letters from the past 14 years.

• **JOHN M. BARRY** will talk about his book *Roger Williams and the Creation of the American Soul*, on Thurs., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord.

• **HOWIE CARR** will talk about his latest mystery novel set in Boston, *Hard Knocks*, on Sun., Jan. 15, at noon at Barnes & Noble in Nashua.

• **HENRY LOUIS GATES JR.** will talk about his new book *Life Upon These Shores: Looking at African American History* on Tues., Jan. 17, at 7 p.m. at The Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth, as part of the Writers in the Loft

In the spotlight



How do you work this thing?

Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson will hold an e-reader demonstration on Wednesday, Jan. 11, from 3 to 4 p.m. It's the place to be if you got an e-reader for the holidays — or, you know, three years ago — and want to learn how to use it (or get more out of it), or if you want to buy an e-reader and aren't sure which one would be best for you. Step away from the hype and go to a quiet environment where you can try out a nook touch, nook color, Kindle, iPad, Kobo reader and more. And yes, area libraries loan e-books to people who own e-readers.

series. Tickets to the event cost \$64 and include a reserved seat, book, bar beverage, the author presentation, Q&A and book-signing meet & greet. Tickets are available at the Music Hall box office, 436-2400 or www.themusichall.org.

• **BARBARA BROWN TAYLOR** will talk about her book *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith* on Wed., Jan. 18, at 6 p.m. at Red River Theatres in Concord, hosted by Gibson's Bookstore. Tickets are free but space is limited.

• **JANE ROY BROWN**, co-author of *One Writer's Garden: Eudora Welty's Home Place*, will sign copies and talk about the book on Sat., Jan. 21, at 11 a.m. at Toadstool Bookshop in Peterborough.

• **STEVEN R. CLOSS** will talk about his book *Willing Sacrifice: Granite State Valor during the American Civil War 1861-1865* on Tues., Jan. 31, at 7 p.m. in the Winchell Room of Manchester City Library. He'll talk about the contributions of the 2,000+ soldiers from NH who died in combat during the Civil War, and in particular the stories of the 157 soldiers from Manchester.

• **NH AUTHORS SERIES 2011-2012** at UNH in Durham takes place Sundays at 2 p.m. in the 5th-floor courtyard reading room of Dimond Library. Author interviews are followed by a Q&A session with the audience. Jan. 29: James Patrick Kelly, whose novel *Burn* won a 2007 Nebula Award and who has also won two Hugo awards. April 22: Rebecca Rule, regional storyteller and author of *Headin' for the Rhubarb! A New Hampshire Dictionary (well, kinda)*. Interviews are recorded for broadcast on NHPTV and for streaming online at www.nhptv.org/authors. The series is free and open to the public but seating is limited; to reserve a seat, visit www.library.unh.edu/friends or call 862-1540.

• **MORGAN CALLAN ROGERS** will talk about her novel *Red Ruby Heart in a Cold Blue Sea* on Thurs., Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord.

• **TOBY LESTER** will give a slide show and presentation about his new book *Da Vinci's Ghost Genius, Obsession, and How Leonardo Created the World in His Own Image* on Wed., Feb. 15, at 6 p.m. at Red River Theatres in Concord, hosted by Gibson's Bookstore. Tickets are \$6, or free with the purchase of *Da Vinci's Ghost* from Gibson's Bookstore. Lester is also the author of *The Fourth Part of the World*.

• **MATTHEW PEARL** will talk

about his new novel *The Technologists* on Wed., Feb. 22, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. Pearl (www.matthewpearl.com) is also the author of *The Dante Club*, *The Poe Shadow* and *The Last Dickens*.

• **LOCAL AUTHORS NIGHT** on Thurs., Feb. 23, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in the Image Gallery at Nashua Public Library. Spend an evening chatting with local authors and getting their advice on what it would take to get your own book published. Light refreshments will be served. Authors who want to participate should sign up at www.tinyurl.com/npldiscussion by Jan. 31. Snow date is Wed., Feb. 29. For more info, contact Carol at 589-4610 or carol.eyman@nashualibrary.org.

Lectures and discussions

• **EVEREST!** multimedia presentation by Craig John about his ascent of the North Ridge of Mt. Everest and his expeditions to Kilimanjaro, Denali and Cho Oyu, on Thurs., Jan. 5, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Public Library (in the library's theater). Free and open to the public.

• **THE HUMAN SPIRIT: ADVENTURES AND CHALLENGES** program series at Amherst Town Library begins with a presentation by international climber and mountain guide Craig John (www.craigjohnclimbing.com) about his ascent of the North Ridge of Mt. Everest on Tues., Jan. 10, at 7 p.m. The events in this program series are free and open to the public but registration is required due to space limitations; call the library or visit the website. Next up is a presentation on Homer's *Odyssey* on Tues., Jan. 17, at 7 p.m.; Denali Delmar's *No-Knead Miracle Bread Workshop* on Tues., Jan. 24, at 6:30 p.m.; "What Endures," a discussion series led by Emily Archer on Wed., Jan. 18, Tues., Jan. 31, and Wed., Feb. 15 from 7 to 8:30 p.m.; "Adding Years to Your Life and Life to Your Years: A Roadmap to Enhance Longevity and Wellness" on Tues., Feb. 7, at 7 p.m.; "It's Not About the Hike" on Tues., Feb. 21, at 7 p.m.; and Exploring America's Tackiest Tourist Photos with humorist Darren Garnick on Tues., Feb. 28, at 7 p.m.

• **WHAT DO YOU STAND FOR?** Ethicist Jim Liethman will discuss ethics and the stories in his book, *What Do You Stand For?*, on Thurs., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. in the NHTI Library Living Room. The event is free and open to the public.

• **SHOAH (HOLOCAUST) SEMINAR** for adults begins Jan. 12 at

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Congregation Betenu in Amherst. There will be 10 weekly meetings, on Thursdays, between 7 and 8:30 p.m. Each session will stand alone, and the public is invited to come to the whole series or just individual sessions of interest. No pre-registration is needed, but RSVP is appreciated. The seminar will be led by Raphael Colb, an English teacher at Hebrew University. Contact Rahel at 554-1459 or betenu@nii.net for info or to RSVP.

• **TRAVEL TO CHINA: FROM PREPARATION TO IMMERSION** presented by photographer and tour operator Richard Ferland on Thurs., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Public Library (in the library's theater). The talk, illustrated with slides, will cover topics from planning a trip to how to mingle with the locals. Free and open to the public. Ferland will also give his presentation on Mon., Jan. 23, at 7 p.m. in the auditorium of the Concord Public Library.

• **MARILYN MONROE: AN ICON FOR ALL SEASONS** is the subject of a talk presented by John De Vito and Frank Tropea, co-authors of *The Immortal Marilyn: The Depiction of an Icon*, on Wed., Jan. 18, at 7:30 p.m. at Portsmouth Public Library, 175 Parrot Ave. Doors open at 7 p.m.

• **HAUNTED LIGHTHOUSES OF NEW ENGLAND** presented by Jeremy D'Entremont on Thurs., Jan. 19, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Public Library. Free and open to the public. D'Entremont's books will be available for purchase and signing at the presentation.

• **STONE WALLS OF NEW ENGLAND** presented by actor, author and NHPR producer Kevin Gardner on Thurs., Jan. 26, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Public Library (in the library's theater). Gardner explores the cultural and historical significance of New England's stone walls as he constructs a model wall using small stones on a table. Free and open to the public.

• **WILD TURKEYS** discussion of the natural history, habits and habitats of the eastern wild turkey, presented by Mark Ellingwood of NH Fish and Game on Thurs., Feb. 2, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Public Library (in the library's theater). Free and open to the public, but register at tinyurl.com/npllectures.

• **NH TO ARGENTINA BY MOTORCYCLE** presented by

In the spotlight



Your move

Game aficionados and interested newbies age 10 and up are invited to learn and play new card, strategy and board games on Thursday, Jan. 12, from 4 to 6 p.m. in the Winchell Room of Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., 624-6550). Semi-professional gaming geeks (likely including Hippo's Glenn Given) will be on hand to mentor new players in an array of classic and modern games. They'll have plenty of games available, but attendees are invited to bring their own as well. For those a bit to the south, they'll host a similar event on Saturday, Jan. 14, from noon to 4 p.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson. Read the Play Date NH blog, which includes reviews of games, at playdaten.h.wordpress.com. For more info, e-mail playdaten@gmail.com. Photo by Dan Brian.

Ben Slavin, who rode from his Hooksett home to the world's southernmost city, Ushuaia, Argentina, on Thurs., Feb. 9, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Public Library (in the library's theater). Free and open to the public. See Slavin's blog at www.afewmoremiles.com.

• **THE 2012 FRAUD: MISREADING THE MAYA AND THEIR CALENDARS** presented by R.P. Hale on Thurs., Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. at Nashua Public Library (in the library's theater). Free and open to the public.

Poetry

• **POETRY SOCIETY OF NH** meets on the third Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore for a poetry reading followed by an open mike hosted by Don Kimball. All are welcome; come to listen or to read. See www.poetrysocietyofnewhampshire.org or call 332-0732.

• **POETRY CONTESTS FOR STUDENTS** The Poetry Society of NH coordinates several contests for students in elementary school, high school and college. Winners receive prizes and are published in the Society's quarterly magazine. Elementary and high school contests are limited to NH students. The college contest is open to undergraduates anywhere. For guidelines, visit www.

poetrysocietyofnewhampshire.org. The college contest deadline is Jan. 30. The other student contests' deadline is March 31.

• **HYLA BROOK READING SERIES** is held at the Beantown Coffee House & Café at 201 Route 111 in Hampstead (beantowncoffee.com) in winter. Free and open to the public. An open mike follows the readings. For info, e-mail Robert Crawford at bobik9@aol.com.

• **HYLA BROOK POETS WORKSHOPS** meet on the third Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Coffee Factory in Derry. For info, contact Robert Crawford at bobik9@aol.com.

• **SLAM FREE OR DIE** at Milly's Tavern, 500 Commercial St., Manchester, 858-3286, includes a poetry open-mike session. Doors open and signups start at 7 p.m., open mike begins around 8 p.m., with featured poets and slams following the open mike. \$3 cover charge. E-mail SlamFreeorDie@gmail.com or call 858-3286. Thurs., Jan. 5, featured poet will be Atlanta poet Theresa Davis, winner of the Women of the World Poetry Slam in 2011.

• **POETS JAM FACTORY** Jam your poetry to live music every Wed. 7:30-10 p.m. at Raxx Billiards, 1211 Elm St., Manchester, ages 18+.

THE BOOK REPORT

• **They just want their books back:** Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson will call no harm, no foul on overdue materials returned to the library from Jan. 6 through Jan. 14. The offer does not apply to fines and fees already on your account, but it is a good opportunity to return long overdue/forgotten materials to the library "so they can be shared by the community," according to a library press release.

• **Manchester teen wins writing contest:** Alexandra Sarazen of Manchester was recently announced as the first-place winner in Family Travel Forum's fifth annual Teen Travel Writing Scholarship Contest, which received nearly 6,000 applicants, according to a release from an

FTF editor. The contest was held in partnership with the Society of American Travel Writers. Sarazen's winning essay, about her trip to Africa with a U.S. volunteer group, is called "And So Our Circle Grew: My First African Morning" and can be read at www.myfamilytravels.com.

• **River of books on Congress Street:** RiverRun Bookstore in Portsmouth has closed and vacated its Congress Street location, but it will re-open on Feb. 1 at 142 Fleet St., still downtown. On Thursday, Dec. 29, volunteers joined in a book brigade to move boxes of books out of the old location and into temporary storage. A similar book brigade helped RiverRun move from its previous location to Congress Street a few years ago. During January, customers can still order books from RiverRun via its website, www.riverrunbookstore.com.

—Lisa Parsons

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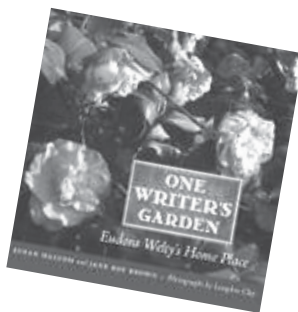
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FILM REVIEWS BY AMY DIAZ



War Horse

War Horse (PG-13) A boy and his beloved horse try to survive World War I in War Horse, a movie about the triumph of the equine spirit.

I'll pause while you finish making gagging noises.

Albert (Jeremy Irvine) is an "aw shucks" English farm boy who admires a spirited young colt born on a neighboring farm. Imagine his delight when his father, Ted (Peter Mullan), buys the colt. Multiply that delight by two and you have

the amount of his mother Rose's (Emily Watson) dismay — Ted was supposed to buy a sturdy farm horse to help with plowing and whatnot. Instead, he blew a wad of cash — including the rent on the farm — bidding for the horse against Lyons (David Thewils), his landlord. But Ted is a drunk and kind of a knucklehead, so he's determined to prove that the colt can do the job. Albert takes on the job of training Joey, as he names the horse, and the pair become as tight as — well, as a boy and his horse or a boy and his dog or a boy and his possibly-

sentient fighting robot. The horse proves that he's up to even insane, rock-breaking tasks and also is a pleasure to ride. Albert is all smiles around Joey — but then the war comes.

Ted, desperate for money to pay the bills, leases Joey to Capt. Nicholls (Tom Hiddleston). Nicholls seems to understand the connection Albert has to Joey so he makes a solemn and gentlemanly promise to take care of the horse and bring him back to Albert after the war if he's able. Unfortunately, once in France we see that while the fancy British officers and their pretty horses are all decked out, swords in hand, to fight for King Henry V in Agincourt, the Germans have big-boy weapons and are prepared to fight a 20th-century war.

Parted from Capt. Nicholls, Joey proceeds to Forrest Gump through the Great War, befriending young German brothers, a French girl and her grandfather, a few kind-hearted Germans, a few mate-y Brits and a friendly fellow horse. Along the way, we see the war progress into the horrors of trench warfare and mustard gas. Eventually, we see Albert in the trenches as well. Through it all, Joey's will to sur-

vive is strong as he rallies America through the Great Depression.

Oh, wait, that was Seabiscuit.

I was not a horse kid. A My Little Pony was the closest I got to wanting a horse and I'm pretty sure the one I had was a unicorn or a Pegasus (or possibly both) and had sparkles — not representative of any actual interest in any actual horse. Even at that late-elementary school age when it seemed like many girls wanted a real live non-plastic horse, I was more interested in getting a car. So "awww, horsey" is not, for me, a winning theme for a movie, particularly a movie that clocks in at nearly two and a half hours. And "awww, horsey" is basically the story of this movie. Joey, with great bravery and determination or whatever the horse versions of those qualities are, sees both sides of the war while retaining the specialness that made the tipsy Ted want to buy him in the first place. Despite its PG-13 rating (and I'm not sure why, exactly, it was rated PG-13 — it definitely softens the harsher parts of war), *War Horse* reminded me of those live-action Disney movies, circa, say, *Old Yeller*, that often focused on a friendship between a kid and

his or her pet. They were sweet, often with a hint of melancholy, and made you feel a kind of nostalgia for the dog you never had. They also tended to do this sort of thing in about 90 minutes, which would have made a perfectly fine length for this movie. *War Horse* also feels old-fashioned in its attempt at the epic sweep but, despite its war setting and its cast of dozens, I think it might have been a more enjoyable, more genuine movie had it trimmed its length and focused on the more personal parts of the story. It also could have easily been knocked down to PG so the parents of the 9- to 12-year-olds who could have made a natural audience for the film would have felt more comfortable bringing them.

As it is, the movie feels overlong and hopelessly maudlin while approaching the horrors of war with an almost comically light hand. We sense, rather than see, how terrible the warfare is — wide shots of dead horses on gray battlegrounds are the movie's big dramatic gut-punch moment, but instead of really making us feel the awfulness it feels manipulative.

War Horse has the look of an Important and Epic film but it

Reviewlets: Snack-sized movie reviews

* Indicates a movie worth seeking out. Previously reviewed movies have grades. For full reviews of most movies here or movies previously released, go to www.hippopress.com.

The Adventures of Tintin (PG)

Jamie Bell, Andy Serkis. Steven Spielberg directs this strangely flat story about a boy-reporter's globe-crossing adventures. **B-**

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Chipwrecked (G)

Jason Lee, David Cross. Both boy and girl Chips go on a cruise only to be stranded on an island. Where they were never heard from again the end. (That second sentence is probably just wishful thinking.) **C-**

*Arthur Christmas (PG)

James McAvoy, Hugh Laurie. Arthur, son of Santa, finally gets his big toy-delivering moment in this animated tale. **B**

*The Descendants (R)

George Clooney, Nick Krause. Clooney stars in the latest film from Alexander Payne (he of the excellent *Election*, *About*

Schmidt and *Sideways*). This one takes place in Hawaii as a man deals with his two young daughters and the impending death of his wife. **A-**

The Devil Inside (R)

Fernanda Andrade, Bonnie Morgan. More demons, more exorcists. Opens wide on Friday, Jan. 6.

The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (PG-13)

Rooney Mara, Daniel Craig. The Swedish novel that spawned a Swedish movie now gets a work-over for an American audience. **B-**

*The Help (PG-13)

Viola Davis, Emma Stone. The novel about Jackson, Mississippi, in the 1960s — the white ladies who make up "society" and the black ladies who work for them — comes to the big screen. **B**

*Hugo (PG)

Chloe Grace Moretz, Asa Butterfield. The 2007 kids' book *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* gets a big-screen adaptation helmed by one Mr. Martin Scorsese. **B+**

Ides of March (R)

Ryan Gosling, George Clooney. The Clooney also directs and co-wrote the screenplay for this political movie. **C-**

In Time (PG-13)

Justin Timberlake, Amanda Seyfried. In the future, time is the currency — the rich get to stay young forever, the poor die at 25. Justin Timberlake totally plans to fight the man. **C+**

J. Edgar (R)

Leonardo DiCaprio, Armie Hammer. Biopic season! The FBI's J. Edgar Hoover gets the Oscar-bait treatment from director Clint Eastwood. **C+**

*Margin Call (R)

Zachary Quinto, Kevin Spacey. Money guys freak out as they realize their investment bank is headed for a fall in this engrossing movie about the early days of the financial crisis. **B+**

Melancholia (R)

Kirsten Dunst, Charlotte Gainsbourg. One woman's sinking depression and the end of the world

play out over this long, at-times meandering but ultimately fascinating movie. **B**

Mission Impossible: Ghost Protocol (PG-13)

Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner. The IMF is framed for a bombing in Russia, and via explosions, jumping out of buildings and other cool special-effects stuff Ethan Hunt and team work to clear their record. **B**

*The Muppets (PG)

Jason Segel, Amy Adams. It's time to start the music, it's time to light the lights. It's time to meet the Muppets in a brand new movie. (Insert screaming frog here). **B+**

My Week with Marilyn (R)

Michelle Williams, Julia Ormond. Based on a book, this Oscar bait for Michelle Williams tells the story of Marilyn Monroe's week in the British countryside with a man working on the set of one of her movies. **B**

New Year's Eve (PG-13)

Halle Berry, Jessica Biel. And also Ashton Kutcher, Hilary Swank, Katherine Heigl, Lea Michele, Michelle

Pfeiffer, Sarah Jessica Parker, Zac Efron, Seth Meyers, Jon Bon Jovi, Josh Duhamel and Hector Elizondo. Enough of us saw last year's corn syrup-y *Valentine's Day*, so now this happened. **D**

*Puss in Boots (PG)

Voices of Antonio Banderas, Salma Hayek. The swashbuckling cat (in boots) returns for this adventure that teams him up with a sultry thief (Kitty Softpaws) and his old friend Humpty Dumpty in an attempt to steal some magic beans from outlaws Jack and Jill. **B+**

*Sherlock Holmes: A Game of Shadows (PG-13)

Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law. The Victorian-era bromance continues with Holmes and Watson pursuing Moriarty. **B**

The Sitter (R)

Jonah Hill, Ari Graynor. Against all common sense, a parent leaves her three children with the latest man-boy played by Jonah Hill, who then takes them to a party where he thinks he's assured a hook-up. **C-**

*The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn — Part I (PG-13)

Kristin Stewart, Robert Pattinson.

OMG, vampires! The spariest love story of our time finally includes some doin' it in this adaptation of the first half of the final book of the vampire-vs.-werewolf love triangle. **B**

*A Very Harold & Kumar 3D Christmas (R)

John Cho, Kal Penn. And what would a Harold & Kumar movie be without Neil Patrick Harris? They reteam on a quest to find the perfect Christmas tree. **B**

We Bought a Zoo (PG)

Matt Damon, Thomas Haden Church. As the title suggests, a single father decides that the way to reconnect with his children is to buy a zoo. **C+**

*Young Adult (R)

Charlize Theron, Patton Oswalt. A writer for a teen novel series returns to her small town (but has never left behind her teenager maturity level) in this wonderfully cruel movie by Diablo Cody. **A**



The Darkest Hour

doesn't really deliver on that promise. **C+**
Rated PG-13 for intense sequences of war violence. Directed by Steven Spielberg with a screenplay by Lee Hall and Richard Curtis (from the novel by Michael Morpurgo), War Horse is two hours and 26 minutes long and distributed by Walt Disney Studios.

The Darkest Hour (PG-13)

Americans in Moscow get caught up in an alien invasion in *The Darkest Hour*, a pokey, cheerless action movie.

Sean (Emile Hirsch) and Ben (Max Minighella) are young American entrepreneurs headed to Moscow to get investors for their social-media-nightlife-tourist-app thing. When they arrive at their meeting, however, they learn that you probably shouldn't lay out all the plans for your million-dollar idea before you get a signature on something — a check, a non-disclosure form, something. Skyler (Joel Kinnaman), the sleazy guy who helped them set up their meeting, has stolen their idea and before they can prevent anything he kicks Sean and Ben to the curb.

Ah, but they're young. And it's Moscow. And apparently the bars are teeming with supermodels. So, disappointment aside, Sean and Ben use their app to find a cool bar and meet another traveling American, Natalie (Olivia Thirlby), and her Aussie friend Anne (Rachael Taylor). Because it will be helpful later to have someone around whom the audience is supposed to dislike, Skyler also shows up at the bar. So it's a night of bitterness and flirting and shots until suddenly the electricity shuts off. The crowd at the club heads outside, where they see strange lights in the sky. What at first looks like Aurora Borealis changes to look like a sky full of falling dandelion puffs made of gold light. How beautiful, someone says, which if you know anything about this kind of movie is the sign to run.

Our group doesn't, naturally, at least not right away, so they get to witness the vaporizing power of these dandelion things. If the pretty pretty light touches you, you pixelate and then turn into a cloud of ash. And then the running and the screaming start.

Eventually, the fivesome holes up in the club's basement, where the glowy death lights can't find them. As we see in death-light-vision and as the kids eventually figure out, these alien creatures (or whatever) are attracted to a person's inter-

nal electromagnetic energy. When the kids emerge from the basement and decide to make a run for it (to the U.S. Embassy, just in case the genocide-inflicting aliens, like, respect international law and diplomatic immunity), they try to figure out ways — using "science" — to keep the light balls from finding them and then to fight back.

These are some pretty low-tech looking aliens. Think of one of those plasma globes at the mall where when you touch the glass, a little lightning bolt shoots out to meet your finger. The aliens here look and behave more or less like that. Why one would take such unspectacular looking effects and put them in 3-D — which is how I saw this movie — is a mystery for the ages, though I suspect the extra \$4 or so I paid to see it probably has something to do with it. But, for future reference, movie-makers, giving your sad, tired effects an additional dimension doesn't make them any more exciting.

Putting a sad, tired group of standard, horror-movie type actors in 3-D doesn't give them extra dimension as characters either. Everybody is SPOILER ALERT just waiting for the plot-appropriate time to die until we get to the core that will inevitably survive. Minighella, who was such snappy fun in *The Social Network*, has nothing to do here. Hirsch, who has a bit of a dollar-store Christian Slater thing going on, is one of the least enthusiastic action figures I've seen in a while. And, while he's only in his mid 20s, he seems resigned, like he's been told B-grade horror is the best he's going to get. (He was in real movies — *Into the Wild*, *Milk* — not too long ago. I'm not sure what happened.) The girls get even less to work with. Their characters — essentially, "Girl" — are really only differentiated by the fact that one is blonde and one is brunette.

There is nothing fun or smart about the way this movie brings us the familiar invasion scenario and nothing compelling about the characters or the writing to make it enjoyable to watch. Perhaps we should send copies of *The Darkest Hour* into space; after watching this movie, aliens will think us too boring to invade. **D+**

Rated PG-13 for sci-fi action violence and some language. Directed by Chris Gorak with a screenplay by Jon Spaihts and story by Leslie Bohem, M.T. Ahern and Jon Spaihts, The Darkest Hour is an hour and 33 minutes long and is distributed by Summit Entertainment.

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• **The Descendants** (R, 2011) Thurs.,
Jan. 5, 2, 5:30 & 8 p.m.;
Fri., Jan. 6, through Sun., Jan.
8, at 12:25, 3, 5:30 & 8:30 p.m.;
Mon., Jan. 9, and Tues., Jan. 10,
at 2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Wed., Jan.
11, at 2:05; Thurs., Jan. 12, at
2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.
• **Le Havre** (NR, 2011) Fri., Jan.
6, through Mon., Jan. 9, at 2 & 7
p.m.
• **Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy**
(R, 2011) Fri., Jan. 6, through
Sun., Jan. 8, at 12:30, 3:15, 6 &
8:45 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 9, through
Thurs., Jan. 12, at 2, 5:25 & 8:05
p.m.
• **Primary Watch Party** See the
results with international journal-
ists, Tues., Jan. 10, at 6 p.m.
• **Mystery, Alaska** (R, 1999) Wed.,
Jan. 11, at 7 p.m.
• **Daisy Bates: First Lady of Lit-
tle Rock** a feature film from the
PBS Series Independent Lens, on
Tues., Jan. 17, at 6 p.m.
• **More Than a Month** a feature
film from the PBS Series Inde-
pendent Lens, on Tues., Feb. 21,
at 6 p.m.
• **Hell and Back Again** a feature
film from the PBS Series Inde-
pendent Lens, on Tues., April 17,
at 6 p.m.
• **Strong** a feature film from the
PBS Series Independent Lens, on
Tues., May 15, at 6 p.m.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-
6550, www.manchester.lib.nh.us
• **Pirates of the Caribbean: On
Strange Tides** (PG-13, 2011)
Wed., Jan. 11, at 1 p.m.
• **Water World** (PG-13, 1995)
Wed., Jan. 18, at 1 p.m.
• **The Adjustment Bureau** (PG-
13, 2011) Wed., Jan. 25, at 1 p.m.
• **The Conspirator** (PG-13, 2011)
Wed., Feb. 1, at 1 p.m.
• **The Kiss** (NR, 1929) silent film with
musical accompaniment, Tues.,
Feb. 7, at 6 p.m.
• **Rocky** (PG, 1976) Wed., Feb. 8,
at 1 p.m.
• **Time Traveler’s Wife** (PG-13,
2009) Wed., Feb. 14, at 1 p.m.
• **The Pelican Brief** (PG-13,
1993) Wed., Feb. 15, at 1 p.m.
• **Back to the Future** (PG, 1985)
Wed., Feb. 22, at 1 p.m.
• **Family Movie Afternoon** Mon.,
Feb 27, at 2 p.m.
• **African Cats** (G, 2011) Wed.,
Feb. 29, at 1 p.m.
• **Hangman’s House** (1928) silent
film with live musical accompani-
ment, Tues., March 6, at 6 p.m.

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nash-
ua, 589-4600, www.nashualibrary.org. Call 589-4646 for the
library’s film line, a schedule of
upcoming movies. Films subject
to change. Seating is limited.
Food and drink are not permitted
in the theater.

WILTON TOWN HALL

Main Street in Wilton, wilton-
townhalltheatre.com
• **The Skin I Live In** (R, 2011)
Thurs., Jan. 5, at 7:30 p.m.
• **Hugo** (PG, 2011) Thurs., Jan. 5,
through Thurs., Jan. 12, at 7:30
p.m. Plus, Sat., Jan 8, at 2 & 4:30
p.m.
• **My Week With Marilyn** (PG-13,
2011) Fri., Jan. 6, through Thurs.,
Jan. 12, at 7:30 p.m. Plus, Sun.,
Jan. 8, at 2 p.m.
• **Bus Stop** (1956) Sat., Jan. 7, at
4:30 p.m.
• **Iron Jawed Angels** (2004) Sun.,
Jan. 8, at 4:30 p.m.

FRANCO-AMERICAN CENTRE

Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint
Anselm Drive, Manchester, www.francoamericancentrenh.com
• Cinema Mardi, on the third
Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m.
Film in French with English sub-
titles.
• **Incendies** (R, 2010) on Tues.,
Jan. 17, at 7 p.m.
• **Heartbreaker** (G, 2010) on
Tues., Feb. 21, at 7 p.m.
• **L’Auberge Espagnole** (R, 2002)
on Tues., March 20, at 7 p.m.

NHTI

Sweeney Auditorium, 31 College
Drive, Concord, 271-7185, www.nhti.edu
• **Friday Night Film Series**, Fri.,
Feb. 3, at 7 p.m.
• **Friday Night Film Series**, Fri.,
Feb. 17, at 7 p.m.

KELLEY LIBRARY

234 Main St., Salem, 898- 7064,
www.kelleylibrary.org
• **The Help** (PG-13, 2011) Sat.,
Jan. 14, at 11 a.m. (Bring your
own lunch and the library will
supply the dessert).

POLLARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY

401 Merrimack St., Lowell,
Mass., 978-970-4120, www.pollardml.org
• Independent film night on the
second Thursday of each month
from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Films are not
rated.
• **Karen Cries on the Bus** (NR,
2011) Thurs., Jan. 12, at 6:30 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-
2400, www.themusicall.org.
Some of these films are being
screened at Music Hall Loft, at

131 Congress St. See website for
details.

• **Margin Call** (R, 2011) Thurs.,
Jan. 5, through Sun., Jan. 8, at
7 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 10, through
Thurs., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m.
• **Melancholia** (R, 2011) Fri.,
Jan. 13, through Sun., Jan. 15,
at 7 p.m.; Tues., Jan. 17, through
Thurs., Jan. 19, at 7 p.m.

NEWBURYPORT SCREENING ROOM

82 State St., Newburyport, Mass.,
978-462-3456, www.newburyportmovies.com
• **Into the Abyss** (NR, 2011)
Thurs., Jan. 5, at 7:30 p.m.
• **Another Happy Day** (R, 2011)
Fri., Jan. 6, at 6:15 & 8:45 p.m.;
Sat., Jan. 7, at 3:45, 6:15 &
8:45 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 8, at 5 &
7:30 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 9, through
Thurs., Jan. 12, at 7:30 p.m.
• **The Big Year** (PG, 2011) Fri.,
Jan. 13, at 6:15 & 8:45 p.m.; Sat.,
Jan. 14, at 3:45, 6:15 & 8:45 p.m.;
Sun., Jan. 15, at 5 & 7:30 p.m.;
Mon., Jan. 16, through Thurs.,
Jan. 19, at 7:30 p.m.
• **The Mill and The Cross** (NR,
2011) Fri., Jan. 20, at 6:45 & 8:45
p.m.; Sat., Jan. 21, at 4:45, 6:45 &
8:45 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 22, at 5:30 &
7:30 p.m.; Mon., Jan. 23, through
Thurs., Jan. 26, at 7:30 p.m.
• **Tinker, Tailor, Solider, Spy**
(R, 2011) Fri., Jan. 27, through
Thurs., Feb. 9: Fridays at 6 &
8:45 p.m.; Saturdays at 3:15, 6 &
8:45 p.m.; Sundays at 4:45 & 7:30
p.m.; Mondays through Thurs-
days at 7:30 p.m.

THE COLONIAL THEATRE

95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033,
www.thecolonial.org
• **Martha Marcy May Marlene**
(PG-13, 2011) Thurs., Jan. 5, at
7 p.m.

OTHER

• **GOING BLIND, GOING FOR-
WARD** on Sat., Jan. 7, from 1
to 3 p.m., at Huggins Hospital
Medical Arts Education Center,
240 S. Main St. in Wolfeboro.
Free admission; call 569-7507 to
reserve a seat.
• **PATRIOCRACY**, a politically
charged documentary, will air in a
special screening on Sunday, Jan.
8, at 4 p.m. at the New Hampshire
Institute of Technology’s Sweeney
Auditorium, 31 College Drive
in Concord. The presentation in
New Hampshire will include a
panel discussion with National
League of Women Voters Presi-
dent Elisabeth MacNamara,
Malone and former congressman
Paul Hodes. screening is free.
Visit patriocracymovie.com.

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Primary laughs

Jimmy Tingle courts the ha-ha vote

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Plenty of politicians contradict themselves, but Jimmy Tingle at least is forthright about it. As a citizen and taxpayer, he always supported universal healthcare. Then he became a business owner, with 10 employees demanding coverage. “What are we, in Russia?” he wondered, before realizing in exasperation, “there are parts of me trying to overthrow myself.”

The Cambridge comedian will give his perspective on the primary season on Sunday, Jan. 8, at the Concord Auditorium.

“I’m thrilled to do a show called Jimmy Tingle for President: The Funniest Campaign in History,” he says in his best candidate voice.

Some of his ideas make a lot of sense once you stop chuckling. Tingle thinks that prisoners, rather than lifting weights and becoming more dangerous, should pedal stationary bicycles and feed power into the grid. He also has a unique idea for an immigrant debit card to tally what a citizen gives to and takes from American society.

Rather than mar Cape Cod, he’d put windmills in the breakdown lane of the Mass Pike — anyone who’s changed a tire there knows how hard the draft blows when cars speed by. “That way, we’ll be using energy from foreign fuel in cars to reduce our dependency on foreign fuel,” Tingle says. Genius.

Along with his stand-up act, the evening will feature a screening of *Jimmy Tingle’s American Dream*. The Vincent Straggas-directed documentary chronicles lessons learned by the comic while operating a theater in his hometown for five years.

“It’s also about the larger issues of the American Dream, the social things involved,” Tingle says.

The film includes interviews with performers and public figures giving their take on the American Dream over the course of seven years. Tingle talks with Clinton cabinet secretary Robert Reich, commentator Neil Cavuto and Mort Sahl, considered by many the dean of political comics.

The late Robert Altman figures prom-

inently; the two met during the 2004 Democratic convention, when the director’s son filmed Janeane Garofalo performing in Tingle’s Off Broadway Theatre in Somerville as part of his Unconventional Comedy series.

“That was a special conversation,” Tingle says of Altman, who told him, “I don’t know of a better place than America, but that doesn’t mean it’s going to stay that way.”

Historian Howard Zinn, a friend dating back to Tingle’s days working in his son Jeff Zinn’s theater company in Wellfleet, Mass., in the early 1990s, offers a passionate perspective. The two spoke on camera in summer 2009; Zinn died in January 2010. “People are fundamentally decent and have common sense,” Zinn says at one point, though he allowed that he didn’t have a lot of hope for the short term.

Tingle talks at length with observers on both sides of the political spectrum. Sean Hannity told him he believes anything is possible in this country — “You can’t fail here,” he says. Comedian Bobcat Goldthwaite notes, “It says it’s the pursuit of happiness — that’s not a guarantee.”

The latter is a lesson Tingle learned all too well when his business folded.

“It was a great education,” he says. The theater began as a way for his friends and him to perform, but ended up teaching him about economic interdependence. “Two hundred people at a show are out on the square, adding to the economic vitality of the whole neighborhood — that was an unintended consequence. And being a boss — I never thought of myself as an economic stimulus program.”

When the Off Broadway closed in 2007, Tingle pursued another dream, attending Harvard University. He earned a master’s degree from the Kennedy School of Government in 2010 and was asked to speak at graduation. His commencement address caps the film, and in many ways sums up his philosophy of the American Dream: “All of us are here today because someone or something helped us,” he says. “Now it’s our job to help others. That’s education.”

Of course, Tingle’s talent is for turning serious subjects into comic fodder. He calls his mock campaign Humor for



Jimmy Tingle. Courtesy photo.

Humanity — Humor and Helping, Humor and Healing, Humor and Hope. “HAH, HAH, HAH! That’s what they chant at my rallies,” he says.

But delivering a message along with laughs requires delicate balance.

“Getting to the soul of the issue and then making it funny without preaching, that’s tricky,” Tingle says. “Woody Allen once said, ‘If I make people laugh that’s great, if I make them think and laugh that’s the ultimate, but if I only make them think I’m in trouble.’ A statement alone can be enough if you’re a politician, but if you’re a comic at some point you’ve got to get to the punch line, and you have to do it so people who don’t agree with you will find it humorous. That’s the challenge.”

Jimmy Tingle’s American Dream - Live on Stage and Screen

Where: Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St. in Concord

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$20 on the day of show

More info: see www.jimmytingle.com

Nite Roundup

Local music & nightlife news

By Michael Witthaus
music@hippopress.com

• **The kid:** Guitar phenom Ryan Brooks Kelly plays his final Granite State gig before the International Blues Challenge in Memphis, where his band the RBK Project will compete at the end of January. Since bursting on the scene with Smokestack Lightning and touring with an all-star band of New England players, he’s settled into the slot with a trio format — and he’s almost old enough to drink. See RBK Project on Thursday, Jan. 5, at 9 p.m. at Whippersnappers, 909 Elm St. in Manchester. Go to www.rbkproject.com.

• **Comic con:** Primary season’s been good for laughs — ask Rick Perry. So it makes sense that a comedian qualifies as a life coach to the candidates. Jim McCue promises insights on foreign policy gleaned from several performances at overseas military bases and the leadership qualities of tall people — at six and half feet, he should know. See “Jim McCue: How to Become President and Save the World” on Friday, Jan. 6, at 9:30 p.m. at Headliners, 700 Elm St. in Manchester. Tickets are \$25 at howtobecomepresident.eventbrite.com.

• **Active rock:** Proving that all the good music wasn’t just made three decades ago, Craving Chaos covers modern rockers like Godsmack, Disturbed, Linkin Park, Drowning Pool and Five Finger Death Punch. Looking forward, the four-man, guitar-bass-drums-singer band promises to unveil a new original tune at its upcoming Manchester appearance. See Craving Chaos on Saturday, Jan. 7, at 8 p.m. at City Sports Grille, 216 Maple St. in Manchester. Go to www.cravingchaos.com or call 625-9656.

• **Ring in the new:** After a strong showing last year, roots rockers The Christa Renee Band sink their teeth into 2012 at a music-friendly Peterborough room. The New Jersey transplant’s debut disc, *For The People*, displayed her Caribbean roots and social activism, along with her band’s impressive musical chops, driven by twin percussion and infectious rhythms. See Christa Renee Band on Friday, Jan. 6, at 9:30 p.m. at Harlow’s Pub, 3 School St. in Peterborough, www.harlowspub.com. Tickets cost \$5.

• **Up from Ole Miss:** After high school, blues acolyte Michael Vincent and his band Doubleshot headed southbound for the home of the music they loved to woodshed in juke joints and hone their craft. Vincent added slide guitar to his repertoire, and the band is now formally based in Gulfport, Miss. They’re currently in New England for a brief tour. See Michael Vincent & Doubleshot on Friday, Jan. 6, at 8 p.m. at Tower Hill Tavern, 264 Lakeside Ave. in Laconia. Go to www.doubleshotblues.com or call 366-9100.

Go, Daddy-O

SoCal throwbacks Big Bad Voodoo Daddy play the Palace

By Michael Witthaus
music@hippopress.com

A couple of years ago, Big Bad Voodoo Daddy released an album of Cab Calloway songs. It was a culmination of sorts for the retro jazz band’s trumpet player, Glen “The Kid” Marhevka. While still in grade school, he’d seen Calloway perform at Disneyland, an experience that forever changed him.

“I’d never heard of him before that,” Mar-

hevka said as the band prepared for a show near Seattle. “I was enthralled listening to this big band and seeing this crazy old guy dance and jump around on stage, and from that point on I was totally into any jazz band I saw.”

The youngster already had an interest in the trumpet, one of the reasons his parents took him to the show. But he dove into the instrument after seeing Calloway, eventually earning a college degree in music. His

tastes are multifaceted; Marhevka is a fan of former *Tonight Show* bandleader Doc Severinsen, jazzman Freddie Hubbard and improvisational genius Miles Davis.

The group’s influences also go well beyond 1940s-era bop and swing. It began as a duo — singer/guitarist Scotty Morris and drummer Kurt Sodergren. Early on, the band played mainly electric blues-rock. Blues legend Albert Collins gave it a name when he signed a poster for Morris: “To



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NITE



Big Bad Voodoo Daddy. Courtesy photo.

Scotty, the big bad voodoo daddy."

Marhevka was recruited when the duo decided to add horns. Though he'd played in a few big bands, some with significant star power, he was intrigued seeing Big Bad Voodoo Daddy playing in L.A. nightclubs. "It was really raw sounding, but it had this energy to it that I can't describe," he says. "Here was a sort of garage band idea that had something I didn't find in these really well-rehearsed bands that I'd been playing in. It just had this edge."

After a long night talking music with Morris, he phoned his father. "This band can be huge, it's going to take off," he told him. "Now here I am, 17 years later."

Success came when Jon Favreau tapped the band for his 1994 movie, *Swingers*. The cult hit included "You & Me & the Bottle Makes 3 Tonight (Baby)," "I Wan'na Be Like You" and "Go Daddy-O." A mid-'90s swing revival, led by Cherry Poppin' Daddies and the Brian Setzer Revue, helped launch them nationally.

In 1999, they played the halftime show at the Super Bowl.

"We got to share the stage with Stevie Wonder on 'Sir Duke,'" Marhevka recalls. "He could have had his own band play, but he wanted us to do it, he said it would be cool." The Big Bad Voodoo Daddy stage show, which comes to Manchester's Palace Theatre on Friday, Jan. 6, is a wildly kinetic one. "It's a real fun and uplifting show. There's a lot of energy in the band," Marhevka says. "Our recordings are great but when the band is on-stage, it's the best — there are five horns and everyone is featured, so it's just a really fun show."

The band arrives on stage dressed in 1940s garb — vintage suits and fedora hats. "The old jazz musicians from '30s, '40s and '50s always looked so sharp," Marhevka says. "I think it's cool to bring that class

on stage. You work so hard to make great music and it's really great to look sharp, too."

Marhevka was a youthful 22 years old when he joined the band, a self-described prankster; he earned his nickname at a band dinner. "We went out to a nice restaurant and my culinary tastes were not sophisticated," he recalls. "Everybody ordered all this great food and I had a hot dog and fries. Scotty said, 'You are just a kid, man,' and they just started calling me The Kid." Morris used it on stage one night, fans picked up on it and the name stuck.

With *How Big Can You Get? The Music of Cab Calloway* in 2009, "we came full circle," Marhevka says. "After all these years, I'm recording this music with my peers and trying to give tribute to this guy that happened to influence me, which is amazing and cool."

But the experience involved more than simply revisiting music that inspired him as an 11-year-old. "There was a side note," says Marhevka — a special prize he'd never dreamt of. One of the trombone players at the sessions for the record played in the band backing Calloway when Marhevka saw him in Disneyland.

"He's a huge friend and mentor," the trumpet player says. "He actually found a board mix tape of the show and he brought it to us. So I was able to listen to the actual concert from that night."

Big Bad Voodoo Daddy

When: Friday, Jan. 6, at 8 p.m.

Where: Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St. in Manchester

Tickets: \$40, \$60 and \$100 (Gold Circle with VIP meet and greet) at www.palacetheatre.org (Proceeds benefit New Hampshire Public Television.)

Nightlife Listings

Music, comedy & parties

• **WORLD MUSIC** will be performed by the Wildest Dreams Worldbeat Music Ensemble at Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, on Sun., Jan. 8, from 4 to 5 p.m. The show is free and open to the public. Call 673-2288 or e-mail library@amherst.lib.nh.us to reserve a spot.

• **JIMMY TINGLE FOR PRESIDENT:** The Funniest Campaign in History will be performed at Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord, on Sun., Jan. 8, from 4 to 6 p.m. The live show will follow a

showing of *Jimmy Tingle's American Dream*. Tickets cost \$15 in advance at jimmytingle.com (\$20 at the door).

• **SQUEEZEBOX STOMPERS** will perform at Simple Gifts Coffee House at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Nashua, 58 Lowell St., Nashua, on Sat., Jan. 14, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$16 at uunashua.org/simplegi (\$18 at the door, \$10 for children 13 and under, seniors and students receive a \$2 discount).

• **DAVID WILCOX** and Meg Hutchinson will perform at the Peterborough Players Theater on Hadley Road in Peterborough on Fri., Jan. 27,

at 8 p.m. Tickets cost \$18 at pfmsconcerts.org (\$21 at the door).

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• **LAKESIDE LANES** 2171 Candia Road, Manchester, 627-7722, lakesidelanes.com

• **LEDA LIGHTHOUSE** 340 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-4884, ledalanes.com

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From Paul to Kermit

Laurence Juber has accompanied the greats

By Angel Roy
aroy@hippopress.com

Growing up in England at the height of the British Invasion, it was only natural that Laurence Juber wanted to learn how to play the guitar. His father, however, pushed him to play the saxophone. Juber opted to compromise with his dad, settling on the clarinet, but what the elder Juber did not know was that his son fixed it so his name would remain on the bottom of the list of requests for the woodwind instrument, knowing there would not be enough to go around.

"I got a guitar for my 11th birthday and never put it down," Juber said.

Forty-eight years and 19 — soon to be 21 — albums later, Juber is a world renowned finger-style guitarist. He has received two Grammy awards, one for playing alongside Paul McCartney as a member of Wings and another for his solo guitar arrangement of the *Pink Panther* theme song. Juber will be up for another Grammy this year as the reissue of Paul McCartney's *Band on the Run* album has been nominated in the Best Historical Album category.

Juber played homage to the Beatles and his former bandmate by releasing two albums filled with acoustic covers of the iconic band's hits.

"The way I look at it I got my master's degree from Paul McCartney University," Juber said. "Not only on a playing level — being onstage with Paul was remarkable in itself — but also in terms of him as an artistic mentor. Watching his creative process was all just very inspiring."

Juber could not pinpoint one Beatles song in particular that shaped his career as a musician but noted that the iconic British band had an impact on his life in general.

"The fact is, my ambition was to be a studio musician and when I joined Wings it kind of catapulted me into a different world. That was really what prompted my move from England to New York to Los Angeles," Juber said. "I was in New York when I met the woman that later became my wife, Hope ... she was a big Beatles fan."

Juber added the lute to his music arsenal while studying music at college in England but as a professional studio musician he made it his mission to master all guitar-like instruments, including the mandolin and banjo. His banjo skills can be heard in the recently released *The Muppets* movie; Juber strummed away in the movie as Kermit. He also played on the Muppets Christmas album and joined musicians Paul Williams and Willie Nelson for a performance with "The Great Gonzo."

"It gets a laugh but as a studio musician living in L.A. for 30 years I have played on hundreds of TV shows," Juber said, adding that he lent his talents to *Home Improvement*, *Seventh Heaven*, *Boy Meets World* and *Charles in Charge*, to name a few. His guitar can also be heard in many movies, including *Dirty Dancing*, *Pocahontas* and *Good Will Hunting*.

Now that his children are grown, Juber



Laurence Juber. Courtesy photo.

said he has been able to tour more often and usually performs 80 to 100 concerts a year.

"It's not a lot compared with some of my friends — a lot of people are on the road 300 days a year — but I also have a parallel career," Juber said. "I'm not just a studio musician but a composer." Juber wrote music for the *Diablo III*, *World of Warcraft* and *StarCraft* video games. He noted that he has heard musicians around the world play his arrangements and compositions on both the guitar and the vibraphone. "It's kind of satisfying seeing the music spreading out," he said.

Juber was most recently tapped to perform on *Chimes of Freedom*, an album of Bob Dylan cover songs that is scheduled to be released early this year to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Amnesty International. On the record he plays with Seal and Jeff Beck, one of his electric guitar heroes.

"As a musician there is great diversity in what I've done ... there is a lot of pop culture sensibility in what I do but it's channeled between six strings and 10 fingers," Juber said. "My fingers never leave my hands. A lot of people ask me if there are more hands playing from behind the curtain because it sounds like more guitars are playing. The art of finger-style guitar is to articulate music in that way."

"I'm a guitar player — that's what I've always wanted to be," Juber said. "I'm a guitar player and I get to share my music with an audience when I play live. During a conventional music session you just look at a music stand. There is no audience there."

Juber said the audience at his upcoming Londonderry performance should expect to hear some arrangements of Beatles, Jimi Hendrix, Wings and Great American Songbook music.

"There will be lots of guitar playing," he joked, adding that this year he plans to make a lot of changes to his repertoire by bringing in new music. "I know [the show] will be entertaining," he said. "It's what I do."

Laurence Juber

When: Thursday, Jan. 12, at 8 p.m.

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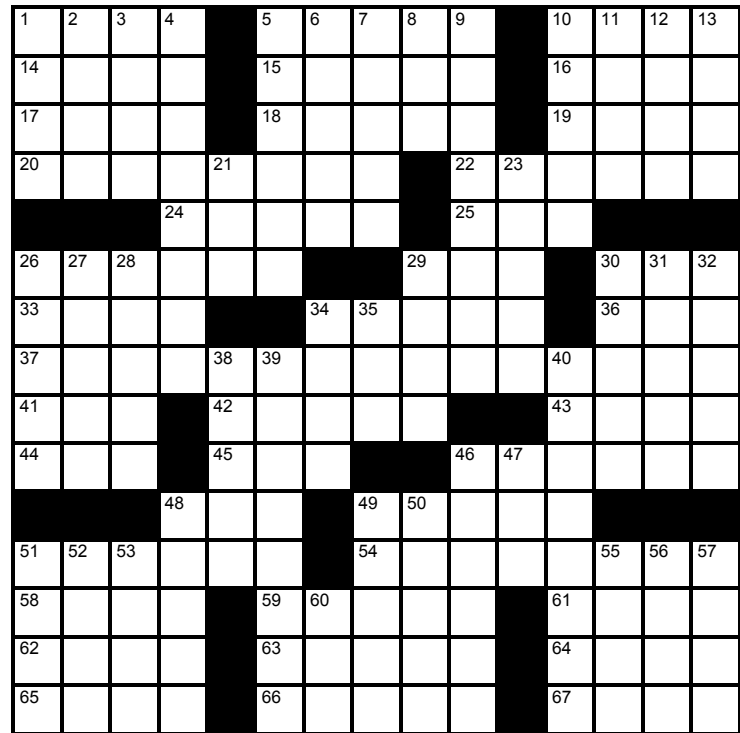
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- Across**

 - Flying Burrito Brothers member Parsons
 - Blue Rodeo ‘___ Hit Me Yet’
 - Notch on festival list
 - Kylie Minogue ‘___-Motion’
 - Bill Withers-inspired Hinder song? (3,2)
 - Rod Stewart & Ron Isley ‘This Old Heart Of ___’
 - Said at end of gospel show
 - Kind of ‘Emotions’, to The Stones
 - Village People favorite
 - Comes after The Police’s ‘De Do Do Do’ (2,2,2,2)
 - Offspring “That’s okay, cause I got no self ___”
 - Ike Turner did too many
 - All-female Swedes Drain ___
 - Alice Cooper ‘Billion Dollar ___’
- Paul Carrack 70s band
 - Sick Puppies ‘___ One’
 - ‘The Beekeeper’ Tori
 - ‘Animal’ pop singer
 - Ozzy’s Black Sabbath replacement
 - ‘78 Rod Stewart #1 (2,2,5,2,4)
 - Tomahawk ‘___ De Sac’
 - Grabby Jewel song?
 - Opeth ‘Watershed’ opener
 - Japanese femmes ___ Ska Band
 - Bronx old-school funksters
 - Gershwin’s biggest seller, sung by Al Jolson
 - Irish band that smokes?
 - Slayer ‘___ Of Sacrifice’
 - ‘89 Stevie Ray Vaughan album (2,4)
 - Zwan ‘___ Of The Sea’ (4,4)
 - Where LL Cool J was ‘Going Back To’
 - Coldplay ‘One ___’ (1,4)
 - ‘Last Of The Brooklyn Cowboys’
- Guthrie
 - Beastie Boy Yauch
 - King Missile ‘Detachable ___’
 - Mötley Crüe singer Vince
 - Rod Stewart ‘All In The ___ Of Rock & Roll’
 - Parts of towns Springsteen finds ‘Darkness’ on
 - ___-Lite
 - Springsteen ‘Hammersmith ___ London ’75’
 - Kind of ‘Chicken’, to Little Feat
 - Blues rocker Bramhall II
 - ‘Detachable Penis’ ___ Missile
 - Pet Shop Boys ‘West ___ Girls’
 - Queen ‘___ Are The Days Of Our Lives’
 - What Weezer uses to smoke out, perhaps (4,4)
 - Theory Of A Deadman album ‘___ Souvenirs’ (5,3)
 - Awol rockers can’t handle this
 - Peppers ‘By The ___’
 - Neil Young ‘Comes ___’ (1,4)
 - ‘Angels ___ Us’ Alabama
 - Bob Seger’s Chuck Berry cover ‘C’est ___’ (2,3)
 - Johnny Nash ‘___ See Clearly Now’ (1,3)
 - NY alt-rockers ___ Surf
 - Onyx hit about stage dive gone wrong?
 - Peter Gabriel comp ‘Shaking The ___’
 - 16 Golden Greats’
 - Simple Plan ‘Your Love Is ___’ (1,3)
 - Played in music video
 - Rod Stewart “You ___ me away from home”



- Down**
- Jazzy Traffic instrumental
 - 80s band When In ___
 - Breezed through audition
 - Nat King Cole song about Da Vinci painting? (4,4)
 - Howard Jones ‘___ Lib’
 - The single (hyph)
 - Pat Benatar ‘___ A Weapon’ (3,2)
 - Long-running UK mag (abbr)
 - Derek Trucks rocker wife Susan
 - Patty of Scandal
 - Goes w/Soul Coughing’s ‘Lemon’
 - Rod Stewart “___ in love you’re never out of danger”
 - Bon Iver song that shows spirit?
 - What happens to Papa Roach if they don’t ‘Change’
 - Peter Gabriel’s Grammy winning video
 - ‘Rock Steady’ album (abbr)
 - Rammstein song, also French for love
 - Suprise star Susan
 - Bicycle Thief ‘Everyone ___’



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Lafayette Club
34 High St, 889-9860
Laureano Nightclub
245 Main St.
Martha’s Exchange
185 Main St., 883-8781
Michael Timothy’s
212 Main St., 595-9334
Nashua Garden
121 Main St., 886-7363
Old Amsterdam Bar
8 Temple St., 204-5501
The Peddler’s Daughter

Portsmouth
Press Room: Amorphous Trio
Red Door: Local Heroes w/ Jack Blackwater
Rudi’s: Rob Goldenberg & Chris Klaxton

Salem
Murray’s: blues jam w/ Steve Devine

Friday, Jan. 6
Allenstown
Ground Zero: Dead Ocean, As Time Will Tell, Imagine The Escape, Lydia Ayer

48 Main St., 880-8686
Penuche’s Ale House
4 Canal St., 595-9831
Pine Street Eatery
136 Pine St., 886-3501
The Polish American Club
15 School St., 889-9819
Sausage King
53 Main St., 204-5110
Simple Gifts Coffee House
58 Lowell St.
603 Lounge
14 W. Hollis St., 821-5260
The Sky Lounge
522 Amherst St., 882-6026
Slade’s Food & Spirits
4 W. Hollis St., 886-1334
Stella Blu
70 E. Pearl St., 578-5557
Villa Banca
194 Main St., 598-0500

New Boston
Gravity Tavern
35 Mont Vernon Rd, 487-2011

Newmarket
Lamprey River Tavern
110 Main St., 659-3696
KJ’s Sports Bar
N. Main St., 659-2329
Stone Church
5 Granite St., 650-7700

Newton
Hen House Sports Bar & Grill
85 S. Main St., 382-1705

Pelham
Shooters
116 Bridge St., 635-3577

Peterborough
Harlow’s Pub
3 School St., 924-6365
Peterborough Players Theater
Hadley Road

Plaistow
Corner Pocket
181 Plaistow Rd., 382-3130
Dugout Grille
93 Main St., 819-4947
The Sad Café
148 Plaistow Rd, 382-8893

Portsmouth
American Legion Post 6
96 Islington St.
Blue Mermaid Island Grill
hill at Hanover and High streets, 427-2583
Daniel Street Tavern
111 Daniel St.
Dolphin Striker
15 Bow St., 431-5222
Fat Belly’s
2 Bow St. 610-4337
Gas Light Co.
64 Market St., 431-9122
The Hilton Garden Inn
100 High St., 431-1499
Jitto’s Supersteak
3131 Lafayette Rd, 436-9755
The Music Hall
104 Congress St., 433-3100
Paddy’s American Grill

Belmont
The Lodge: Craig Kendall & the Northwood Playboys

Concord
Green Martini: Mark Brodeur
Makris: Kan-tu Blues
Pit Road Lounge: Phoenix
Tandy’s: DJ

Deerfield
Lazy Lion: Dwight Phetteplace

27 International Dr., 430-9450
Players Ring Theater
105 Marcy St., 436-8123
Portsmouth Pearl
45 Pearl St., 431-0148,
Press Room
77 Daniel St., 431-5186
The Red Door
107 State St., 373-6827
Red Hook Brewery
35 Corporate Dr., 430-8600
Ri Ra Irish Pub
22 Market Square, 319-1680
Rudi’s
20 High St., 430-7834
Rusty Hammer
49 Pleasant St., 436-9289
The Wet Bar
172 Hanover St.

Raymond
Famous Legends Bar & Grill at Strikers East
4 Essex Drive
Freetown Yankee Market 58
Route 27, 895-3418

Salem
Black Water Grill
43 Pelham Road, 328-9013
Jocelyn’s Lounge
355 S. Broadway, 870-0045
Murray’s Tavern
326 S. Broadway, 894-9100
Sayde’s Restaurant
136 Cluff Crossing Rd, 890-1032
The Varsity Club
67 Main St., 898-4344

Seabrook
American Legion Post 70
169 Walton Road
Chop Shop Pub
920 Lafayette Rd, 474-6001
Honey Pot Bar & Lounge
920 Lafayette Rd, 760-2013
Master McGrath’s
Route 107, Seabrook, 474-6540
Prime Time Sports Grill
620 Lafayette Rd, 760-7230

Stratham
Acoustic Outfitters
72 Portsmouth Ave. 778-9711

Sunapee
One Mile West Tavern
6 Brook Road, 863-7500
Sunapee Coffee House
Methodist Church, Route 11

Tilton
Thirsty Crows
504 Laconia Road, 524-5558

Wilton
Pine Hill Auditorium
Pine Hill Waldorf School, 77 Pine Hill Dr.

Windham
Jonathon’s Lounge
Park Place Lanes, Route 28, 800-892-0568

Dover
Brick House: Paranoid Social Club, Sirsy
RJ’s: DJ Big Pez

Epping
Holy Grail: Groove Cats

Exeter
Shooter’s: DJ BiggZ

Gilford
Patrick’s: Jim Hollis

Goffstown
Village Trestle: acoustic jam w/ John Erlman

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NITE

On the scene



Band members of the world, unite and take over

Do you have an upcoming show? Make sure that even if the venue doesn't let us know, it gets listed in the Music This Week by sending us updates of your upcoming gigs. Send locations, dates and times for your upcoming shows to music@hippopress.com. Send information by noon on Monday to get listed for the coming week. Or send us links to your regularly updated website or MySpace page.

... or you, with a club...

Does your bar/restaurant/coffeeshop frequently host musical performances? Send the information to music@hippopress.com along with your address and phone number so we can get you into the Music This Week. And if you regularly update your website or MySpace page, you can send us those links as well. Get the information in by noon on Monday to make the coming Thursday's paper.

MySpace page, you can send us those links as well. Get the information in by noon on Monday to make the coming Thursday's paper.

... and if you are a music fan...

If you're out on the scene and see a show at a location not regularly listed in the Music This Week, let us know at music@hippopress.com. Our goal is to give you the most complete live music listings in the region each and every week.

In the spotlight



Jazz night

New York-based jazz guitarist Michael-Louis Smith will perform at the New Hampshire Jazz Center (nhjazz.com) at Pitman's Freight Room, 94 New Salem St., Laconia, on Thursday, Jan. 5,

at 8 p.m. Smith, who counts Wes Montgomery, Grant Green and John Scofield among his influences, will be joined onstage by his Hot House ensemble, bassist Diallo House and drummer Ismail Lawal. Tickets cost \$10 at the door and the venue is BYOB.

Hampstead

Pasta Loft: Chad Verbeck

Village Square: No Remorse

Kingston

1686 House Tavern:

Mike Belkas

Laconia

Fratello's: Paul Warnick

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Paul Luff

Whippersnappers: Last

Kid Picked

Manchester

Black Brimmer:

Fighting Friday

City Sports Grille:

Psychedelic Relics

Club 313: DJ Bob

The Derryfield: Josh

Logan Band

Fratello's: Joe

McDonald

Jam Factory: Pursuit

of Aidra, Single Action

Army, The Moodies, A

Casual Encounter

Murphy's: Without

Paris

Raxx: DJ Mike

Rocko's: Sean Boogs,

Henergy Productions,

Lumberjack

Shaskeen: Flesh &

Blood

Strange Brew: The

Gravel Project

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Michael

Bourgeois, DJ

Merrimack

The Homestead: Tony

Santesse

Milford

Clark's: DJ Obdulio

Pasta Loft: Richard

James Band

Nashua

Amber Room: DJ Lou,

DJ Danjah

Amsterdam: DJ

Haluwa: The Slakas

Martha's Exchange:

DJ Spivak

Peddlers: Sunday's

Well

Newmarket

Stone Church: Dub

Apocalypse

Newton

Hen House: DJ

Plaistow

The Dugout: DJ Boo

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: Cole

and the Makeout Scene

Gaslight: DJ Koko P

Hilton Garden Inn:

Curt & Jenn

The Page: DJ

Red Door: Miss Tess,

Lord Bass

Press Room: Superfrog

Rudi's: Eric Klaxton &

Jim Dozet

Salem

Jocelyn's: DJ

Seabrook

Chop Shop: The Ride,

True West

Honey Pot: DJ

Saturday, Jan. 7

Allenstown

Ground Zero: Await

Rescue, Dented

Personality, Fowl Play,

A Place In Time

Auburn

Holiday's: Rasmyth

Belmont

The Lodge: Axis Band

Concord

Green Martini: Kurva

Joe

Hermanos: Paul Lovely

& Marc Tessier

Tandy's: DJ

Dover

Brick House: Lenny

Lashley's Gang of One,

Paul Russo, Rev. Todd

Seely, Whiskey Kill

Kelley's Row:

RJ's: DJ

Epping

Holy Grail: Siroteau

Epsom

Circle 9 Ranch:

Craig Kendall & the

Northwood Playboys

Exeter

Shooter's: Cheap Voova

Gilford

Patrick's: Paul Warnick

Hampstead

Pasta Loft: Holiday Joe

Route 111 Village

Square: Zero Gravity

Londonderry

Coach Stop: Joel Cage

Whippersnappers:

Mama Kicks

Manchester

Black Brimmer:

Stomping Melvin

City Sports Grille:

Craving Chaos

Club 313: DJ Bob

The Derryfield: Chad

LaMarsh Band

Fratello's: Julie

Dougherty

Jam Factory: The Save,

For The Sake Of Us All,

Half In The Bag

Milly's: Pure Grade

Murphy's: The Voice

Raxx: DJ Mike

Rocko's: Twisted

Legacy

Shaskeen: Irish sessions

w/ Roger Burridge,

Rhythm Inc.

Strange Brew: Tom

Ballerini

Wild Rover: Nate

Comp & Dimitri

Meredith

Giuseppe's: David

Lockwood, Jam

Sandwich

Merrimack

The Homestead: John

Chouinard

Milford

Clark's: Josh Logan

Pasta Loft: Ghost

Dinner Band

Nashua

Amber Room: DJ

Backstage Bar & Grill:

DJ

Fody's: DJ

Haluwa: The Slakas

Martha's Exchange:

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NITE

In the spotlight



World music

Spend an afternoon listening to multicultural music performed by the Wildest Dreams World Beat Music Ensemble at the Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst, on Sun., Jan. 8, from 4 to 5 p.m. The group has been creating and performing music with world-beat soul since the summer of 1989 and has performed at the 1994 World Cup, Oxfam World-fest and the Reebok International Human Rights Awards. The Amherst show is free and open to the public. Call 673-2288 or email library@amherst.lib.nh.us to reserve a spot.

DJ
Peddlers: EBS

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Christie Lane, Evan Baird Trio
Gaslight: DJ JW
Hilton Garden Inn: Jerry Short
The Page: DJ
Press Room: jazz lunch w/ Larry Garland, Truffle
Red Door: TK Parish
Rudi's: Dimitri & Danny

Salem
Jocelyn's: DJ

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Tripwire

Sunday, Jan. 8
Concord
Hermanos: State Street Combo
Penuche's: open mike w/ Steve Naylor

Dover
Brick House: Jim Dozet Trio, Falling Skyward, Lannen Fall, Man, the Reformer, Too Late the Hero
RJ's: DJ

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Wan-tu Blues Band blues jam

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: Josh Logan & Paul Costley

Manchester
900 Degrees: blues open mike night w/ Tom Ballerini
Jam Factory: Zanois, The Mills, M.K.U.
Shaskeen: sing-along w/ the Spain Brothers

Meredith
Giuseppe's: open mike w/ Lou Porrazzo

Milford
Clark's: DJ

Nashua
Fody's: open mike w/ Chad Verbeck

CONCERTS

Venues

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana
The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com
Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, leddycenter.org

Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass., www.lowellsummermusic.org
Lowell Memorial Auditorium East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com
Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net
The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin, 934-1901, themiddlenh.org
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusic-hall.org
The Old Meeting House, 1 New Boston Rd., Francetown
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St.,

Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
Prescott Park Arts Festival 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436.2848
Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizonwirelessarena.com
Whittemore Center Arena UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, www.whittcenter.com

• **Beatlejuice** Fri., Jan. 6, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Big Bad Voodoo Daddy** Fri., Jan. 6, at 8 p.m., Cap Center
• **Liz Longley** Sat., Jan. 7, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Dueling Pianos** Sat., Jan. 7, at 8 p.m., Boynton's
• **Little Feat** Sun., Jan. 8, at 8:30 p.m., Tupelo
• **Debbie Davies Band** Tues., Jan. 10, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Laurence Juber** Thurs., Jan. 12, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams** Fri., Jan. 13, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Peter Yarrow** Sat., Jan. 14, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Dueling Pianos** Sat., Jan. 14, at 8 p.m., Boynton's
• **Moment in Time: A Tribute to Paul Whiteman** Sun., Jan. 15, at 4 p.m., Cap Center
• **Poco** Sun., Jan. 15, at 7 p.m., Tupelo
• **Marc Cohn** Thurs., Jan. 19, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Darlingside** Thurs., Jan. 19, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
• **Dueling Pianos** Sat., Jan. 21, at 8 p.m., Boynton's
• **Johnny Winter** Sat., Jan. 21, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
• **Lori McKenna** Sun., Jan. 22, at 7 p.m., Tupelo
• **An Evening with 1964: The Tribute** Sun., Jan. 22, at 7 p.m., Palace
• **Carolina Chocolate Drops** Thurs., Jan. 26, at 7:30 p.m., Music Hall
• **James Montgomery Band** Fri., Jan. 27, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Dueling Pianos** Sat., Jan. 28, at 8 p.m., Boynton's
• **The Peacheaters** Sat., Jan. 28, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
• **Evan Goodrow Band** Sat., Jan. 28, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Charles Bradley and his Extraordinaires** Fri., Feb. 3, at 8 p.m., Music Hall
• **Adam Ezra Group** Sat., Feb. 4, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Dueling Pianos** Sat., Feb. 4, at 8 p.m., Boynton's
• **Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder** Sat., Feb. 4, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
• **Noteable Decades** Fri., Feb. 10, at 8 p.m., Cap Center
• **Dueling Pianos** Sat., Feb. 11, at 8 p.m., Boynton's
• **DeadPhish** Sat., Feb. 11, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
• **Commander Cody** Sun., Feb. 12, at 7 p.m., Tupelo

• **Suzanne Vega** Wed., Feb. 16, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Jonny Lang** Thurs., Feb. 16, at 7:30 p.m., Music Hall
• **Stephen Kellogg and the Sixers** Fri., Feb. 17, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Carbon Leaf** Fri., Feb. 17, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
• **Cheryl Wheeler** Sat., Feb. 18, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Solas** Thurs., Feb. 23, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Dianne Reeves** Thurs., Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m., Colonial
• **Acoustic Hot Tuna** Fri., Feb. 24, at 8 p.m., Colonial
• **The Temptations** Fri., Feb. 24, at 8 p.m., Music Hall
• **John Mayall** Fri., Feb. 24, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Jill Sobule** Sat., Feb. 25, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Molly Hatchett** Sat., Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
• **Greg Greenway** Fri., March 2, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Klassik Kiss w/ Balance** Sat., March 3, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
• **Melanie Sat.**, March 10, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
• **Loretta LaRoche** Sat. March 10, at 8 p.m., Palace

NITE

Newmarket

Stone Church: open mike w/ Dave Ogden

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: open mike

Press Room: NYU

Wayne Shorter

Ensemble

Red Door: Green Lion Crew

Rudi's: jazz brunch w/ Chris O'Neil & Chris Sink

Stratham

Acoustic Outfitters: acoustic open mike w/ Ellen Carlson

In the spotlight



Multi-band show in Manch

Pursuit of Aidra, Single Action Army, The Moodies and A Casual Encounter will perform at the Jam Factory, 1211 Elm St., Manchester, on Friday, Jan. 6, from 8 p.m. to midnight. Pursuit of Aidra, a Concord-based rock band, counts bassist Josh Seymour, drummer Collin Miller, lead guitarist Chad Patterson and rhythm guitarist Chris Frazier

among its members. There is a suggested donation of \$5 at the door for the 21-plus show.

Red Door: Madam Macadam

J's Tavern: G Man from Mama Kicks

Manchester

Strange Brew: Sev TJ's: DJ Jonny Friday

Nashua

Fody's: DJ Mark Allen

Newmarket

Stone Church: bluegrass jam w/ Dave Talmage

Portsmouth

Press Room: jazz jam w/ Larry Garland, hoot open mike w/ Dave Gerard

Seabrook

Honey Pot: open mike

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Antrim

Redneck's: open mike w/ the Boogiemens

Auburn

Holiday's: DJ Captain Chris

Boscawen

Alan's: open mike

Concord

Hermanos: Mike Alberici
Tandy's: DJ

Dover

Fury's: open mike w/ Paul Chase
Three Chimneys Inn: open mike

Hampton

La Bec Rouge: DJ Kelly Elliott
Wally's Pub: DJ

Kingston

The Carriage Towne Bar & Grille: Mike Belkas

Monday, Jan. 9

Candia

Henderson's Pickin'

Parlor: electric rock open mike

Concord

Barley House: Dave Tonkin

Hermanos: State Street Combo

Red Blazer: open mike w/Matt Langley

Dover

Castaway's Boathouse: Denis Patrick's Merry Pranksters' open mike
Orchard Street Chop Shop: open mike w/ Dave Ogden

Hampton

La Bec Rouge: open mike w/ Elijah Clark
Wally's Pub: DJ

Manchester

Milly's: Dom and Reid of Manchuka

Meredith

Camp: acoustic open mike w/ Linden Mazurka
Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Merrimack

The Homestead: Charlie Christos

Milford

J's Tavern: acoustic open mike

Portsmouth

Press Room: Matt McCabe Trio

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Concord

Barley House: Irish sessions

Hermanos: Mike Walsh
Tandy's: open mike w/ Calvin McFarlin

Dover

Brick House: acoustic open mike w/ Anthony Vito Fiandaca
RJ's: DJ

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Scot and the Usual Suspects

Hampstead

Pasta Loft: acoustic open mike w/ Mike Belkas

Hampton

Wally's Pub: Baked Naked, Liquid Courage

Londonderry

Whippersnappers: video DJ

Manchester

Milly's: Manchuka
Murphy's: open mike w/Josh Logan, Nate Comp and Paul Costley
Raxx: DJ Mike
Strange Brew: Strange Brew All Stars

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack

The Homestead: Gary Lopez

Milford

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, Jan. 5

Manchester

Jam Factory: Comedy Machine w/ Eric Millhouse

Saturday, Jan. 7

Manchester

Jokers: Rob Steen

Sunday, Jan. 8

Concord

Concord City Auditorium: Jimmy Tingle

Monday, Jan. 9

Concord

Penuche's: live standup

Tuesday, Jan. 10

Manchester

Murphy's: live standup

Wednesday, Jan. 11

Manchester

Shaskeen: open mike

Nashua

Penuche's: live standup

Thursday, Jan. 12

Nashua

Fody's: Alana Susko

Saturday, Jan. 14

Concord

Cap Center: Adam Ferrara

Manchester

Headliners: Larry Norton
Jokers: Sarah Blodgett

Monday, Jan. 16

Concord

Penuche's: live standup

Tuesday, Jan. 17

Manchester

Murphy's: live standup

Wednesday, Jan. 18

Manchester

Shaskeen: open mike

Nashua

Penuche's: live standup

Friday, Jan. 20

Londonderry

Tupelo: Robbie Printz and Steve Bjork

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Best in New Country

Jan. 14 — Joe MacDonald

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Sat., Jan. 7th 9PM-12AM
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Sat 9am-1am
Sun 7³⁰am-9pm, Breakfast 'til noon
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and for alcohol it is 15 minutes before closing

080573

- 1 ____-Barbera cartoons
- 6 Thesaurus guy
- 11 Fight determination
- 14 Another name for a person
- 15 With a BMI over 30
- 16 Burgundy played by Will Ferrell
- 17 Adam Sandler cringefest that topped many
"Worst Movie of 2011" lists
- 19 "Who ____ you kidding?"

20 “Very interesting...”
21 “Hey, wait ____!”
22 U.S. Treasury agents
23 Scrappy-____ (crime-fighting pup)
25 HP tablet released in July 2011, then discontinued six weeks later (then revived later in the year!)
28 Leftover in a tray
31 Yukon manufacturer
33 Cote d’Ivoire’s prime minister Guillaume

____ (hidden
in WINDSOR,
ONTARIO)
34 Metacritic's
lowest-rated Fall
2011 TV show
39 "Nice hair-
cut...did you ____
bet?"
40 Dorm leaders
41 Artless
43 His "Seek-
ing Major Tom"

S	I	P		P	E	R	I		S	E	W	U	P
H	I	S	S	A	B	U	S		A	M	O	V	E
A	M	O	I		G	O	E	S	O	N	T	O	U
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		N	E	C	K	E	R		R	A	W	D	A
			Y	A	B	B	A			E	R	W	I
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V	A	R		S	E	M			E	B	O	O	K
I	L	L		T	R	E	E	E	N	T		L	O
C	L	O	S	E	S	H	A	V	E		A	T	E
H	E	A	R	T		E	D	I	T		N	O	L
E	D	D	I	E		E	E	L	S		K	O	S

made Pitchfork's "Worst Album Covers of 2011" list

46 Kettle Brand's line of corn chips

47 Skin art, slangily

48 Chang's Siamese twin

49 Doomed Netflix offshoot on CNET's "20 Worst-Named Tech Products"

53 "The Darjeeling Limited" director Anderson

55 Fork point

56 Brand of big rig

58 Steel beam named for the letter it resembles

62 Dominique Strauss-Kahn's former org.

63 Tackle box item turned hair accessory that was one of Yahoo!'s "Worst Trends of 2011"

66 Health care assn.

67 Come up

68 Sing from the mountaintops

69 Neighbor of Isr.

70 Underneath

71 Persuasive piece

1 Pilgrim to Mecca
2 “Woe be unto me!”
3 Excellent
4 1997 David Sedar-
is book
5 Simile center
6 Guns, in old slang
7 ____ d’art
8 Company with a green
mascot
9 Course for immigrants:

- abbr.
- 10 Abbr. on a business card
- 11 Gymnastics event in the Olympics
- 12 Seoul's location
- 13 How hair may stand
- 18 Supermodel Campbell
- 22 It may be empty
- 24 Crazy Horse's group of Sioux
- 26 Org. for an admiral
- 27 Word with a common origin
- 28 Athlete's knee injury site, often
- 29 Take third place
- 30 Secretly is conspiring against
- 32 Michael of "Arrested Development"
- 35 Approve something again on Facebook
- 36 Late comedian Kinison
- 37 Helper, for short
- 38 Cinematographer Nykvist
- 42 Rowing machine unit
- 44 "Was ___ das?"
- 45 Actor Ethan
- 49 Wax removers
- 50 Milquetoast
- 51 Medium where addresses include "@"
- 52 Rizzo of "Midnight Cowboy"
- 54 Grain holders
- 57 Take some tabacky
- 59 Chums
- 60 Section
- 61 Count (on)
- 63 Laundry detergent brand
- 64 Before, to poets
- 65 Reuben bread

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All quotes are from *The Dragon and the Unicorn*, by Lynne Cherry, born Jan. 5, 1952.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) “There was a dragon named Valerio, who lived on a lovely mountaintop overlooking a long, winding river, a blue lake, and the ancient tall trees of the Ardet Forest. Each morning upon waking, Valerio would lumber down to the lake.” Try starting each day with a water ritual.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) “Lifting his wings to catch the wind, he would sail to the end of the lake to the giant redwood forest—the home of Allegra the unicorn.” It’s a good time to visit a friend. You might need a windbreaker.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) “Allegra was as old as the Ardet Forest. She was the wisest and gentlest of all the forest creatures.” Spend time with a wise and gentle elder. Make no comments about fashion or handkerchiefs.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) “Together, the dragon and the unicorn would run through the forest, past the Ardet Waterfall, and along the Ardet River as it splashed and gurgled its way to the sea.” Frolick outdoors with a friend. Splashing is optional.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) “One

morning when Valerio opened his large eyes and looked out upon his beautiful view, he saw something new and strange. Smoke. He went to investigate, thinking, Perhaps it is another dragon.” Where there is smoke, there is not necessarily dragon.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) “Soon the humans began to build a huge fortress. As spring turned into summer, the castle walls grew and so did the trouble.” If you get all defensive, it’s just going to cause trouble.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) The king had heard that the horn of the unicorn contained magic powers. He sent his knights, fierce-looking humans on horseback, through the woods to search for her: Allegra hid deeper and deeper in the forest. Don’t get greedy.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) When winter snow fell and their whole world was white, she was camouflaged and could not be found. But as the next spring turned the ground green and brown, Allegra was much too easy to see. So she rolled in the mud to color herself brown and ran with the deer. Try to blend in.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) The next day King Orlando pronounced to all his knights that he who slayed the dragon would receive riches enough to benefit a prince. Now neither Allegra nor Valerio was safe. Don’t sell

out your principles for profit. What do you need with a prince’s riches anyway?

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) Allegra had gone into hiding in a cave behind the Ardet Waterfall, where her form dissolved into the white mist. Valerio joined her there. And so it was that both the dragon and the unicorn came

to live in hiding. A game of hide and seek may go on longer than expected.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) During their days in the cave behind the waterfall, Valerio and Allegra tried to figure out how to save themselves and the Ardet forest. You can do it! Don’t give up!

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)

SIGNS OF LIFE

King Orlando proclaimed that the remaining forest would be preserved as it was that very day. No more trees would be cut, no more earth dug in this ancient forest. To his people he said, ‘We will learn to love and respect this forest, and it will tell us its secrets.’

You won’t gain any knowledge if you destroy its source. Hold your fire.

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			8		5			
	2					3	4	
	1		3		7			
8		4				7		6
				6				
7		3				9		5
			5		4		3	
	3	7					9	
			9		1			

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

1/05

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SU DO KU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week’s puzzle answers are below

12/29								
9	7	2	8	4	5	6	1	3
1	6	5	3	7	9	8	4	2
8	4	3	1	2	6	9	5	7
7	9	1	4	6	3	2	8	5
5	2	8	7	9	1	4	3	6
4	3	6	5	8	2	7	9	1
2	1	4	9	3	7	5	6	8
6	5	9	2	1	8	3	7	4
3	8	7	6	5	4	1	2	9

Difficulty Level ★★ ★

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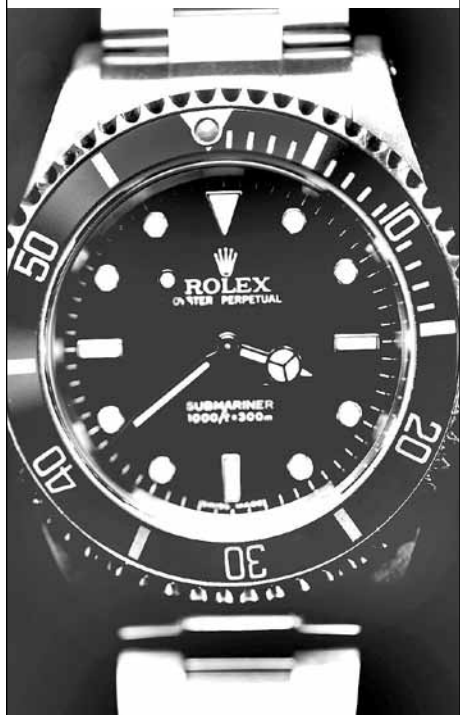
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Security Can Be Delicious

A regional development commission in Michigan, purchasing equipment for 13 counties in May using homeland security grants, bought 13 machines that make snow cones, at a total cost of \$11,700 (after rejecting one county's request for a popcorn machine). Pressed to justify the purchases, officials pointed out that the machines make shaved ice, which might be useful for medical situations stemming from natural disasters and heat emergencies (but that they also make snow cones to draw crowds at homeland security demonstrations).

Recurring Weirdness

NOTE: Once again this week, check out a few more recent instances of Recurring Themes of weird news (plus important updates of previous stories):

- Once again, a genius tried to pass a piece of U.S. currency in an amount not even close to being legal tender: a \$1 million bill. (The largest denomination is, for the most part, \$100.) Michael Fuller, 53, was arrested in Lexington, N.C., in November when a Walmart cashier turned him in after he attempted to buy electronics totaling \$475.78 (apparently expecting change of \$999,524.22).

- Most News of the Weird epic cases of "scorned" lovers who seemingly never give up obnoxiously stalking their exes are of Japanese women, but "dumped" Americans surface occasionally. In October, Toni Jo Silvey, 49, was arrested in Houston when her ex (artist Peter Main) reported that she made 146 phone calls in one day and more than 1,000 (and 712 e-mails) in three months, following their 2009 breakup over his seeing a younger woman. She was also charged with attacking his home with a tire iron, eggs and a sword.

- "Take Your Daughter (Son) to Work" days are still popular at some companies, to introduce children to their parents' cultures. Inadvertently, even criminals mimic the phenomenon. Joseph Romano, 2-year-old son in tow, was allegedly selling drugs when police picked him up in September in Tunkhannock Township, Pa. And Edward Chatman Jr., 32, who was arrested for allegedly raping a woman in Oak Ridge, Tenn., in August, had brought his 6-month-old baby with him when he climbed through the woman's window (though, police said, he stashed the kid in another room during the assault).

- A cutting-edge treatment when News of the Weird first heard of it in 2000 is now mainstream for those suffering extreme diarrhea due to a lack of "predator bacteria" in the colon (perhaps caused by antibiotics). Among the primary treatments now is a transplant — a transfusion of "fecal flora" from the gut of a bacteria-normal person, to restore the natural balance (introduced by a colonoscope after the stool is liquified in a blender). Following months of failed alternatives, Jerry Grant, 33, said in October that his transplant, at the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz., worked remarkably well. (A recent study reported success in 70 of 77 patients.)

- The law of child support changes only slowly in the U.S., but maybe less so in Australia. American courts are reluctant to end payments even if the man later disproves paternity (citing the harm to the child if the payments stop). However, in October, the Federal Magistrates Court in Melbourne, Australia, acting on

fertility-test results, ordered a mother to reimburse the man she swore was the father after he proved he had been sterile. The woman also "recalled," after extensive therapy, that she might have had a one-night stand with a stranger around the time of conception.

- Forgetting to pay the monthly rental fees on a storage locker can have serious consequences if the locker was used to store embarrassing or even incriminating materials. News of the Weird reported one such hapless client in 2007: a central Florida political activist under investigation whose locker yielded a rich trove for a local reporter. Similarly, perhaps, Dr. Conrad Murray (then under suspicion in the death of Michael Jackson) reportedly missed three payments on a Las Vegas storage locker, and prosecutors recovered items that appeared to contribute to their case (although it is not clear that any of the items were ever presented in court).

- Hospital protocols may be changing, but too slowly for Doreen Wallace, who fell in the lobby of the Greater Niagara General Hospital in Ontario in October and broke her hip. Though it was less than 150 feet from the lobby to the emergency room, hospital personnel, following rules, instructed her to call an ambulance to take her around to the ER, though the nearest such ambulance, in the next city, did not arrive for 30 pain-filled minutes. Hospital officials said they would handle things better in the future.

- A New York City jury awarded the family of a late teenager \$1 million in November in its lawsuit against the city for mishandling the boy's brain after his 2005 death. Following "testing," the medical examiner kept the brain in a jar on a shelf, where it was inadvertently spotted by the victim's sister during a school field trip to the mortuary (treatment the family considered extremely disrespectful). The case calls to mind that of Arkansas rapist Wayne Dumond, who had been castrated by vigilantes in 1984 and whose genitals the local sheriff had recovered and kept in a jar on a shelf in his office as a symbol of "justice." Dumond

subsequently (in 1988) won \$110,000 in a "disrespect" lawsuit against the sheriff.

Updates

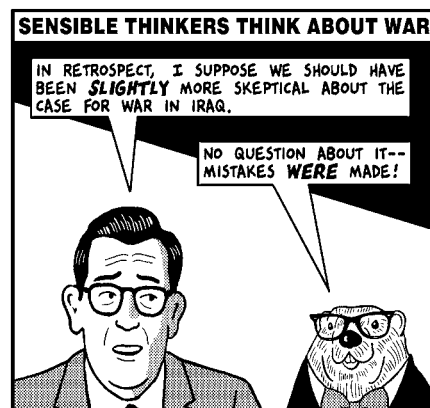
- Jennifer Petkov of Trenton, Mich., is still charming the neighbors. An October 2010 Detroit News summary of a years-long feud between Petkov and various neighbors reported that she had been mercilessly taunting the family of Kathleen Edward, then 7 and suffering from the degenerating brain disorder Huntington's disease, which had taken her mother the year before. The more Kathleen's disability showed, the greater was Petkov's Facebook-page glee. In October 2011, Petkov, after a short promise of civility, returned to mocking Kathleen and the memory of her mother, such as in recent Facebook postings: "You thought the (past) 4+ years were bad you (sic) haven't seen nothing yet!" and "Block party when that kid dies."

- In October, Colorado state Sen. Suzanne Williams settled more-serious 2010 traffic charges by pleading no contest to a misdemeanor and paying \$268 to a court in Amarillo, Texas. State troopers had accused Williams of driving with unbelted grandchildren in her SUV when it drifted across a center line and hit another vehicle, killing the driver and ejecting the kids. The Texas troopers suggested that Williams scooped up the worse-injured grandchild, returned him to the SUV and belted him into a child seat, which was especially significant because Williams had sponsored a mandatory child-safety belting law in Colorado in 2010. However, the grand jury declined to indict her, and she refused to discuss the case further.

Are you ready for News of the Weird Pro Edition? Every Monday at <http://NewsoftheWeird.blogspot.com> and www.WeirdUniverse.net. Other handy addresses: *WeirdNews* at [earthlink dot net](http://earthlink.net), <http://www.NewsoftheWeird.com>, and P.O. Box 18737, Tampa FL 33679. Copyright 2011 Chuck Shepherd. Distributed by Universal UClick.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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Tupelo

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BEATLEJUICE



Friday, January 6
 8:00 p.m. • \$25 • RS-Theater


LIZ LONGLEY

Air Traffic Controller Opens




Saturday, Jan. 7
 8:00 p.m.
 \$20 RS-Theater

LAURENCE JUBER




Thursday, Jan. 12
 8:00 p.m.
 \$20 RS-Tables

GANDALF MURPHY & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams




Friday, January 13
 8:00 p.m. • \$25 • RS-Tables

PETER YARROW



Saturday, Jan. 14
 8:00 p.m.
 \$40 RS-Theater


POCO



Sunday, Jan. 15
 7:00 p.m.
 \$45 RS-Theater

RYAN MONTBLEAU


With Full Band



Saturday, January 21
 8:00 p.m. • \$22 • GA


LORI McKENNA

Mark Erelli Opens




Sunday, Jan. 22
 7:00 p.m.
 \$25 RS-Theater

JAMES MONTGOMERY BAND




Friday, Jan. 27
 8:00 p.m.
 \$25 GA

ADAM EZRA GROUP




Saturday, February 4
 8:00 p.m. • \$15 • GA

DEBBIE DAVIES




Friday, Feb. 10
 8:00 p.m.
 \$20 RS-Tables

COMMANDER CODY




Sunday, Feb. 12
 7:00 p.m.
 \$25 RS-Theater

SUZANNE VEGA



Thursday, Feb. 16
 8:00 p.m.
 \$45 RS-Theater

SOLAS



Thursday, Feb. 23
 8:00 p.m.
 \$25 RS-Theater

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